



## VERIFICATION OF BRIDGE FOUNDATION DESIGN ASSUMPTIONS AND CALCULATIONS

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## Acknowledgments

- Jeremy Hunter
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- Mir Zaheer
- Tim Wells
- Barry Partridge
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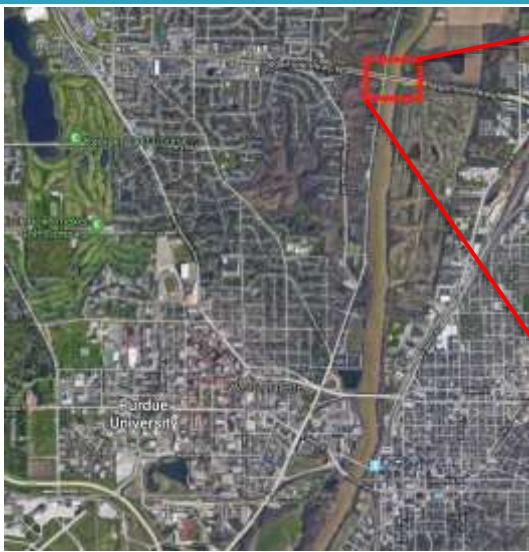
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## Project Background



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## Location - Lafayette, IN, USA



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## Old timber piles

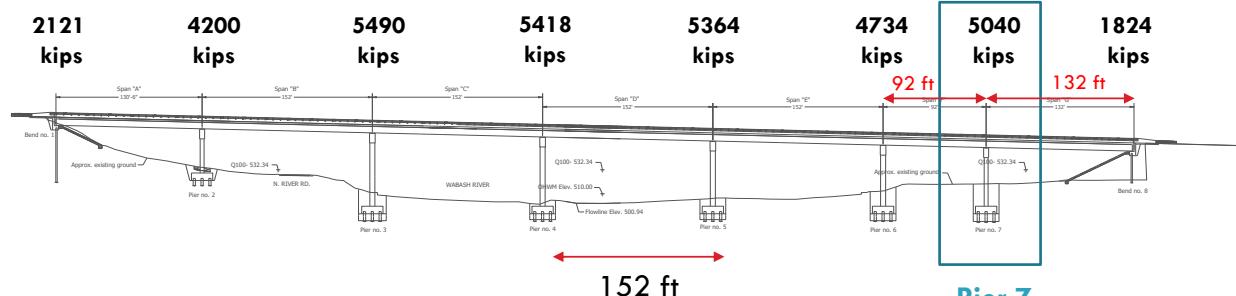


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Built 1936; rehabilitated 1984

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## Dead loads at foundation level and span lengths



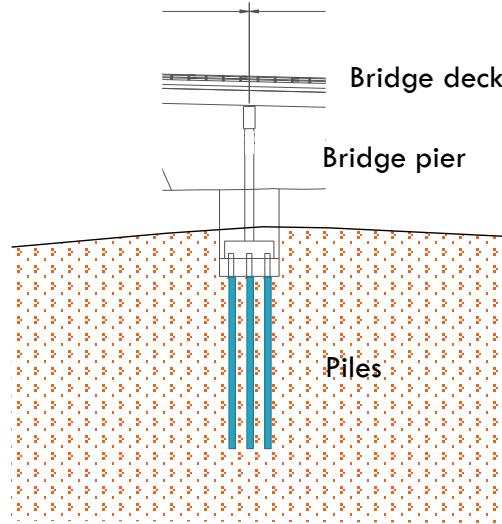
- Total length: 1000 ft
- 7-span bridge
- Typical span length: 152 ft
- Budget estimate: \$ 18 million

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## New bridge



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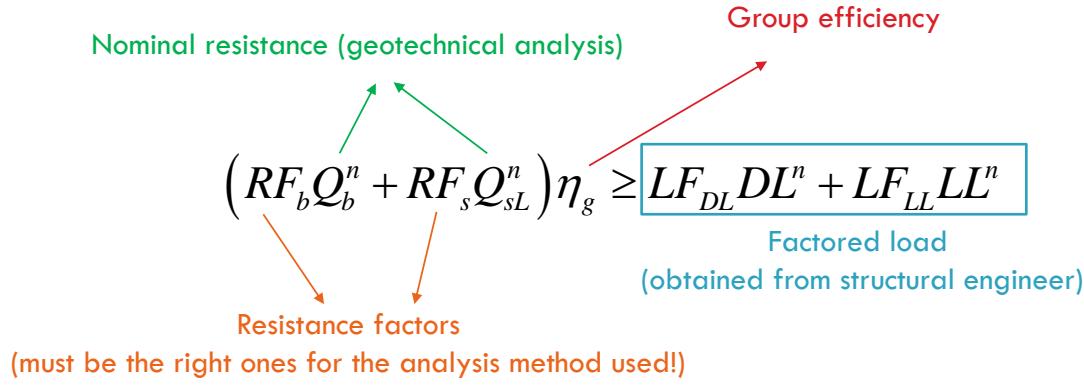
## Foundation loads (per pile)

	Bent 1	Pier 2	Pier 3	Pier 4	Pier 5	Pier 6	Pier 7	Bent 8
Number of piles	7	15	18	18	18	18	15	8
Type of piles	CE	CE	OE	OE	OE	OE	OE	CE
Dead load (kips)	303	280	305	301	298	263	336	228
Live load (kips)	151	187	267	220	196	257	185	115
Lateral load (kips)		10	12	12	11	10	11	



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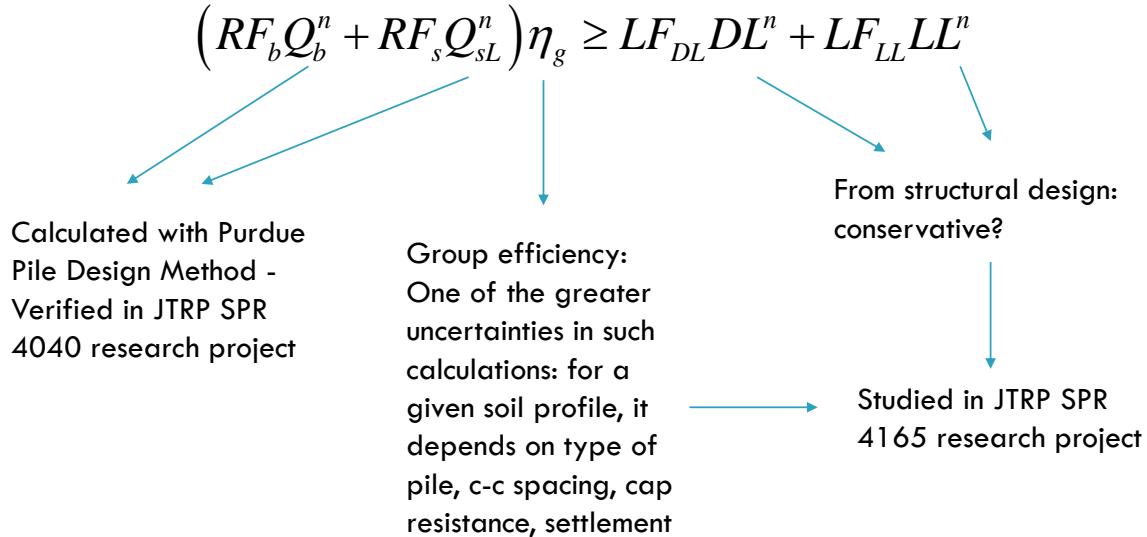
## LRFD design for pile group



This approach is general and could be used both for ULSs and SLSs but so far resistance factors have been developed only for specific analyses and ULSs

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## Where are the Questions?



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## Where are the Questions?

$$(RF_b Q_b^n + RF_s Q_{sL}^n) \eta_g \geq LF_{DL} DL^n + LF_{LL} LL^n$$

For what settlement are these calculated?

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## Tolerable Movement of Bridge Foundations

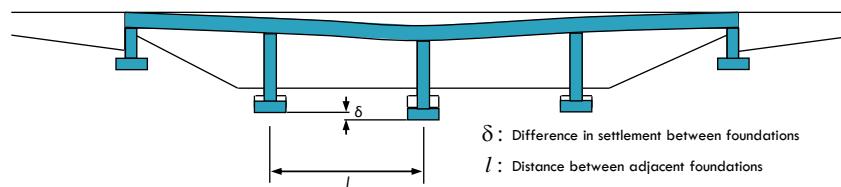
- Ultimate limit states of a bridge are fundamentally similar to those that would be observed in structures that have been better studied, such as frame buildings
- Serviceability is defined differently, relating to **ride quality** and **maintenance** preferences

# Bridge Foundations

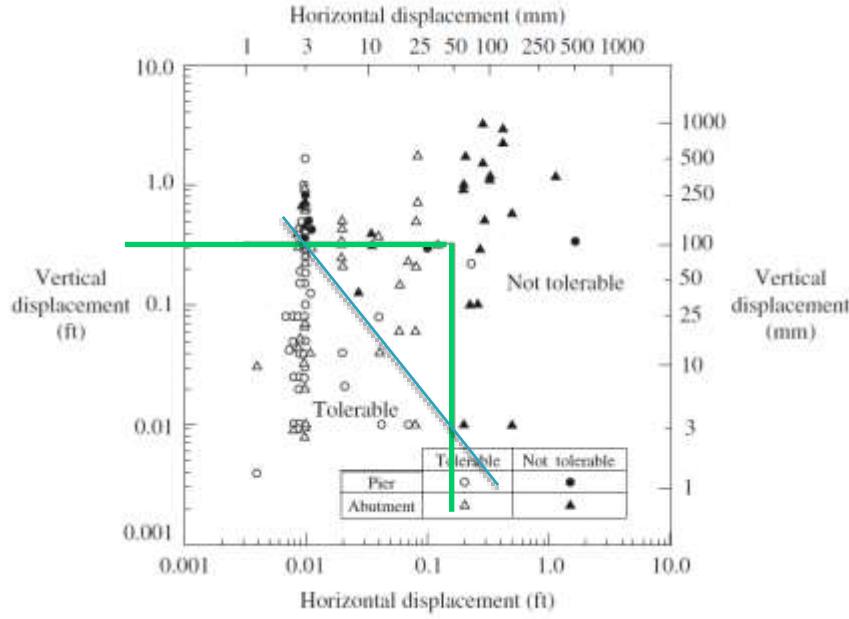
- **SLS in bridges are related to the riding conditions**
  - Uncomfortable/dangerous ride if pavement is wavy or cracked
  - Settlements or horizontal displacements of the foundations causing such conditions are clearly not tolerable
- **Lower initial cost or lower maintenance costs?**
  - It may be advantageous to save on the foundations (an initial cost) even if it means more frequent repair and maintenance of pavements (delayed costs)
  - Defects caused by vertical movements are easier to correct than those caused by lateral movements, which may lead to an undesirable closing of expansion joints



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Bozozuk (1978)

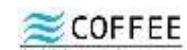
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## Empirical limits on vertical settlement

Settlement magnitude	Basis for recommendation	Reference
50 mm	Not harmful	Bozozuk (1978)
60 mm	Ride quality	Walkinshaw (1978)
>60 mm	Structural distress	Walkinshaw (1978)
100 mm	Ride quality and structural distress	Grover (1978)
100 mm	Harmful but tolerable	Bozozuk (1978)
>100 mm	Usually intolerable	Wahls (1990)

Barker, R. M., Duncan, J. M., Rojiani, K. B., Ooi, P. S. K., Tan, C. K., and Kim, S. G. (1991). "Manuals for the design of bridge foundations: Shallow foundations, driven piles, retaining walls and abutments, drilled shafts, estimating tolerable movements, and load factor design specifications and commentary." NCHRP Rep. 343, Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC.

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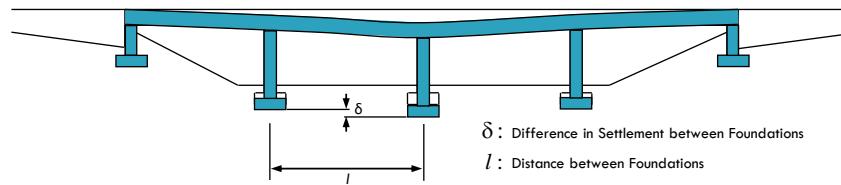
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# Tolerable Horizontal Movements of Bridges

Horizontal movement (mm)	Basis for recommendation	Reference
25	Not harmful	Bozozuk (1978)
38	Tolerable in most cases	Moulton, et al. (1985)
51	Structural distress	Walkinshaw (1978)
51	Harmful but tolerable	Bozozuk (1978)
51	Usually intolerable	Wahls (1990)



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'Standard specifications for highway bridges 2000 interim version.'

Maximum Angular Distortion, $\delta / l$	Basis for Recommendation	Recommended by
0.004	Tolerable for multiple-span bridges	Moulton, et al. (1985)
0.005	Tolerable for single-span bridges	Moulton, et al. (1985)

'LRFD bridge design specifications 2005 interim version'

Maximum Angular Distortion, $\delta / l$	Basis for Recommendation	Recommended by
0.004	Tolerable for multiple-span bridges	Moulton, et al. (1985) Barker, et al. (1991)
0.008	Tolerable for single-span bridges	Moulton, et al. (1985) Barker, et al. (1991)



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## Tolerable Angular Distortion for Bridges

Value of Angular Distortion	Percent of 119 continuous-span bridges for which this amount of angular distortion was considered to be tolerable	Percent of 56 simple-span bridges for which this amount of angular distortion was considered to be tolerable
0.000-0.001	100%	98%
0.001-0.002	97%	98%
0.002-0.003	97%	98%
0.003-0.004	96%	98%
0.004-0.005	92%	98%
0.005-0.006	88%	96%
0.006-0.008	85%	93%



MOULTON ET AL. (1985)

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## Allowable angular distortion by AASHTO (2018)

- Continuous-span bridges
  - 0.004
- Simple-span bridges
  - 0.008

(AASHTO. (2018). *AASHTO LRFD bridge design specifications*. American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, Washington, D.C.)

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## Allowable settlement for the Sagamore Bridge

- For pier 7 (span length = 92 ft)
  - Allowable differential settlement:  $92 \text{ ft} \times 0.004 = 112 \text{ mm}$
  - Assuming: differential settlement/total settlement = 0.75
  - Allowable total settlement =  $112/0.75 = 150 \text{ mm}$
- For a typical pier (span length = 152 ft)
  - Allowable differential settlement:  $152 \text{ ft} \times 0.004 = 185 \text{ mm}$
  - Assuming: differential settlement/total settlement = 0.75
  - Allowable total settlement =  $185/0.75 = 247 \text{ mm}$



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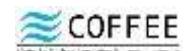
## Site Investigation



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## Cone Penetration Test (CPT)

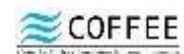


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## Standard Penetration Test (SPT)

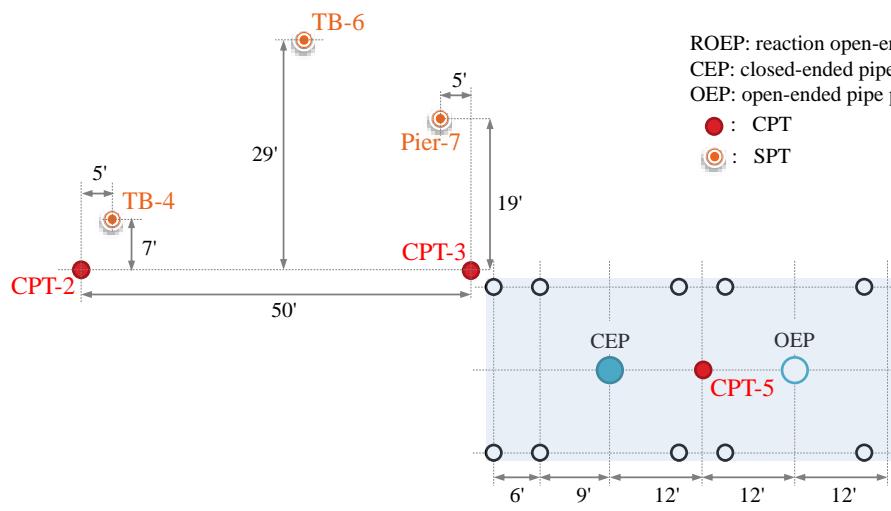


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## In-situ test locations



ROEP: reaction open-ended pipe pile  
CEP: closed-ended pipe pile  
OEP: open-ended pipe pile)

● : CPT  
○ : SPT



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## Soil samples



25 ft



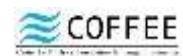
65 ft



80 ft



110 ft



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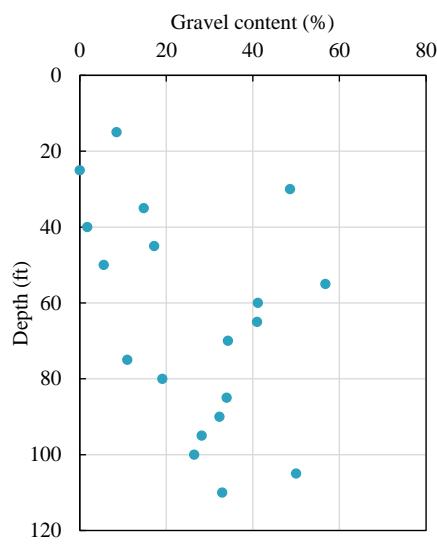
## Existence of large particles



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## Gravel content

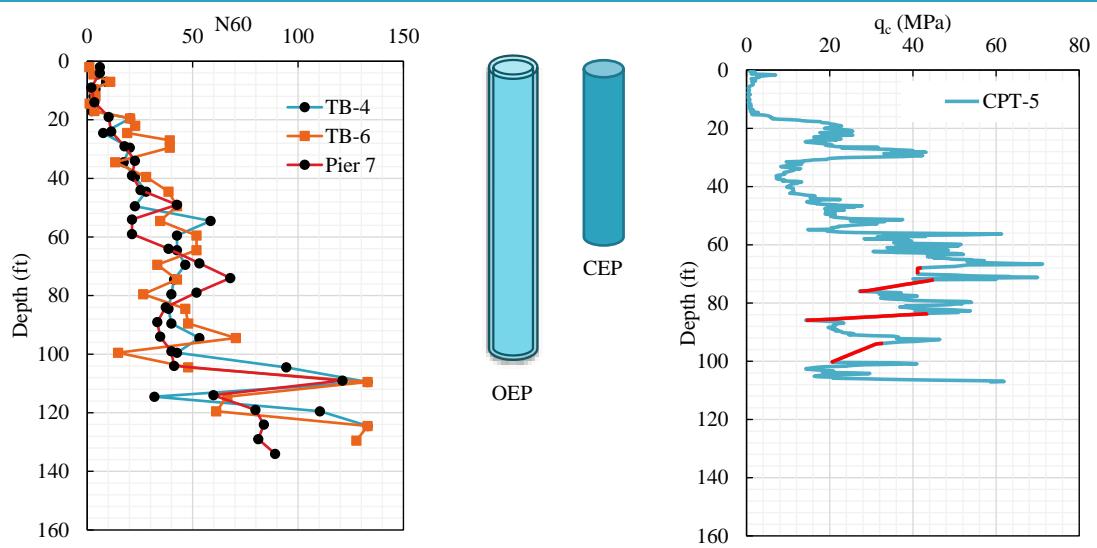


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## In-situ tests - SPT & CPT



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## Pile Instrumentation

## Bridge Foundations – Test Piles

Open-  
ended  
pipe piles

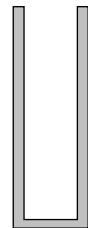


Closed-  
ended pipe  
piles



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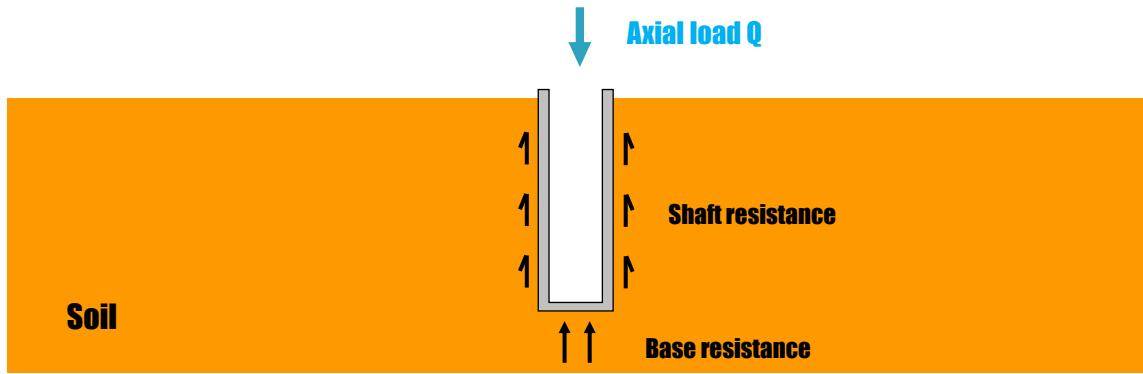
### Closed-ended steel pipe pile



Soil

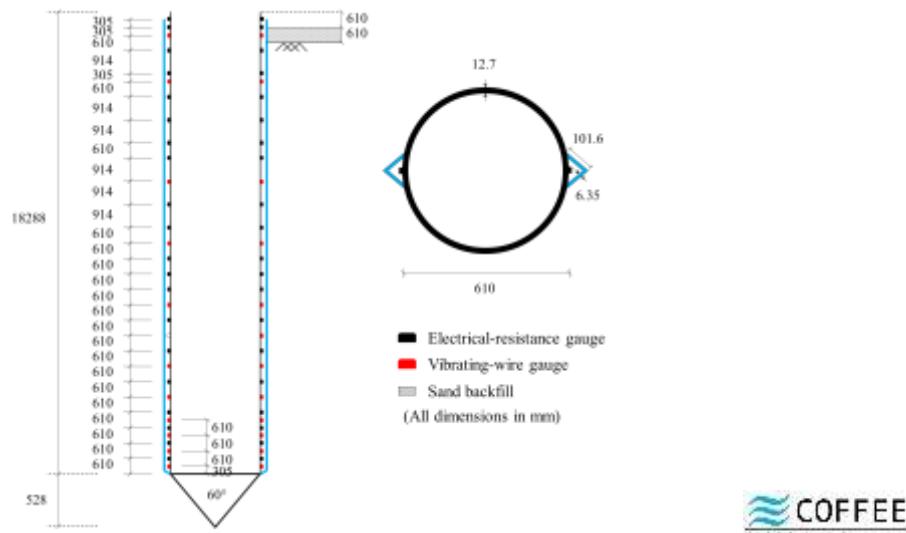
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## Closed-ended steel pipe pile



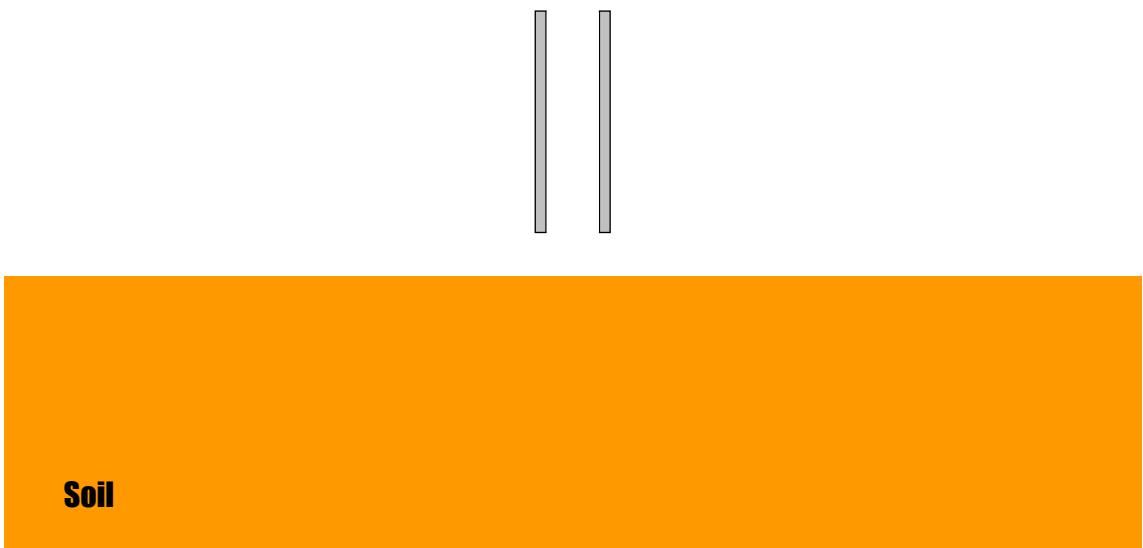
33

# Layout of Strain Gauges – closed-ended pile



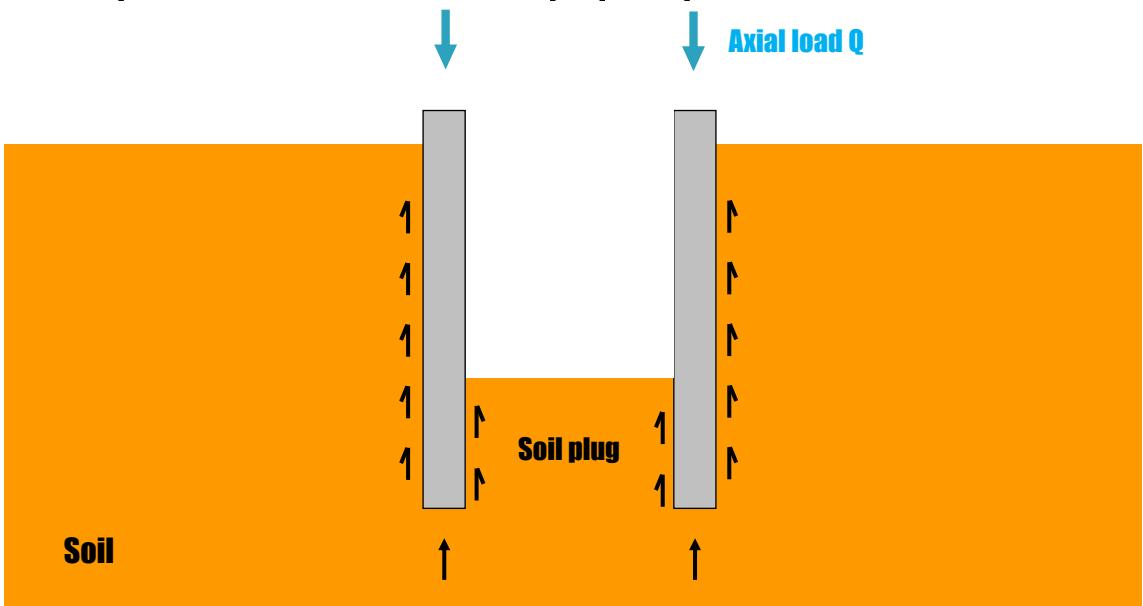
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## Open-ended steel pipe pile



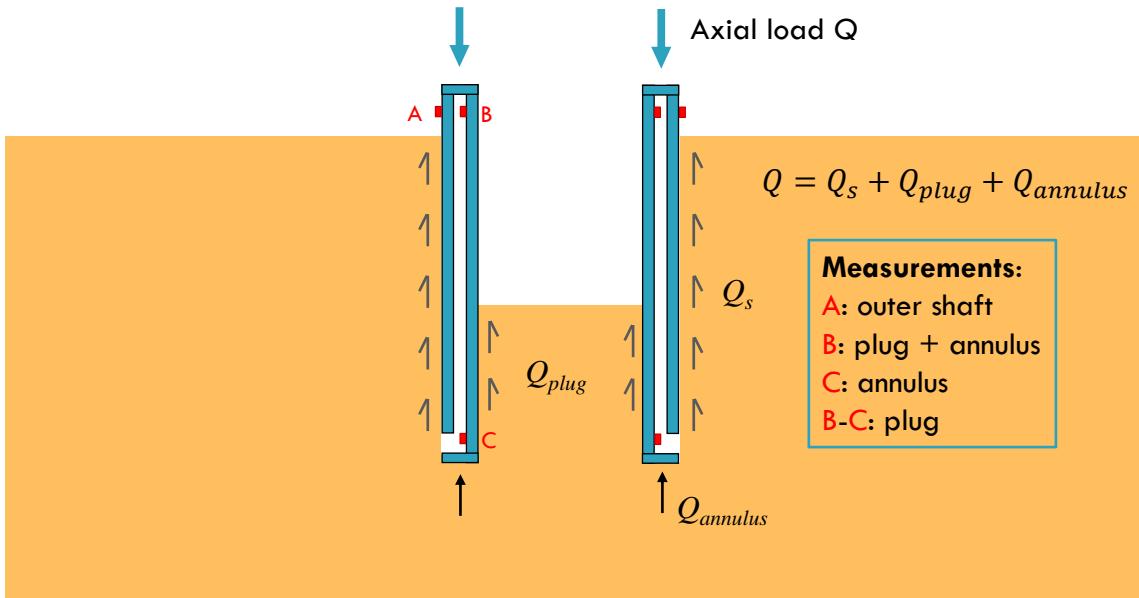
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## Open-ended steel pipe piles - sands



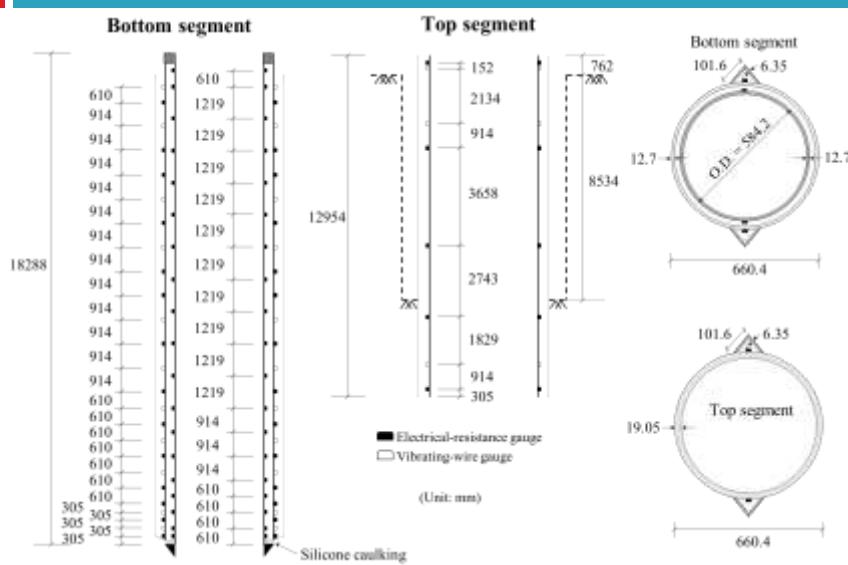
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# Double-wall system for open-ended pile



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## Layout of Strain Gauges – Open-ended pile



Fabricated in two segments:

Double-wall bottom segment

## Single-wall top segment



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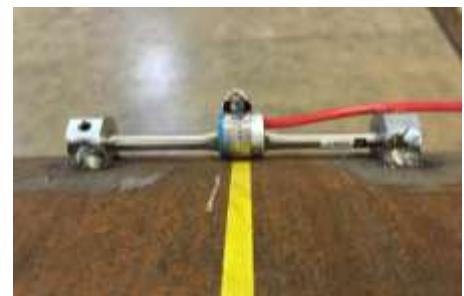


**Surface polishing**

**Electrical-resistance  
strain gauges**



**Vibrating-wire  
strain gauges**



## Installation of sensors



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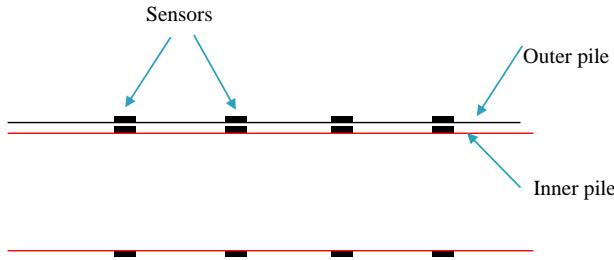
## Pile instrumentation

- Pile instrumentation
  - 50 VW strain gauges
  - 104 ER strain gauges
  - 5 miles of cables



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## Double wall assembly



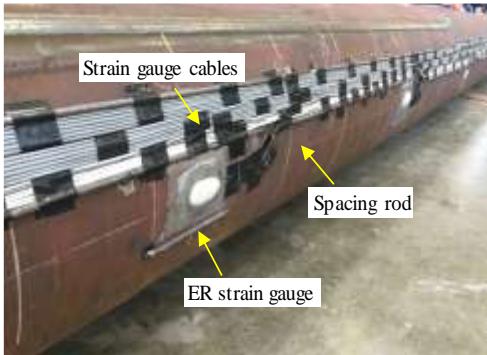
Inner pile slid into the outer pile



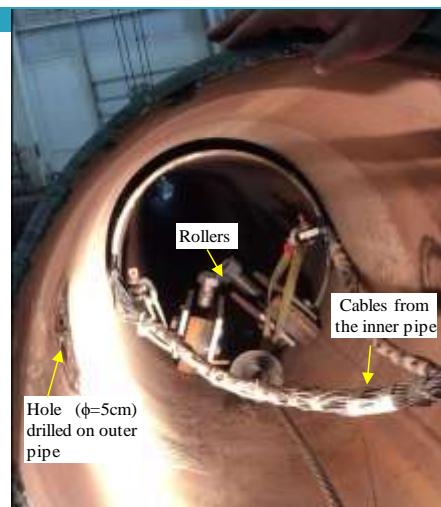
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## Double wall assembly



Inner pipe



Sliding

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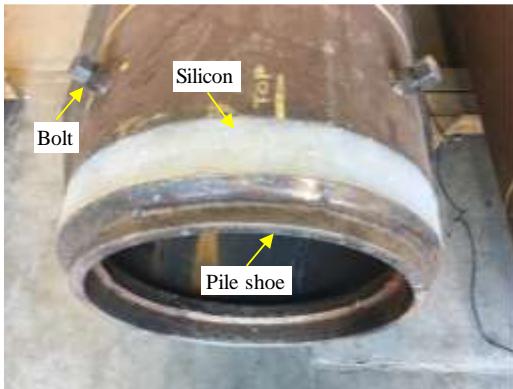
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## Double wall assembly



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## Double wall assembly – driving shoe



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## Piles ready for driving



Channels placed on  
outer pipe to  
prevent damage to  
wires during driving



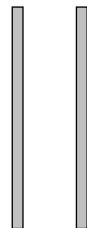
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## Measurement of Plug Formation



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## Open-ended steel pipe piles - sands

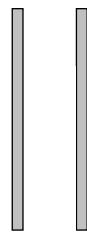


Case 1: fully coring (unplugged)



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## Open-ended steel pipe piles - sands

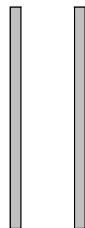


Case 2: plugged penetration



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## Open-ended steel pipe piles - sands



Case 3: Partial plugging

**Soil**

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### Importance of plug measurement

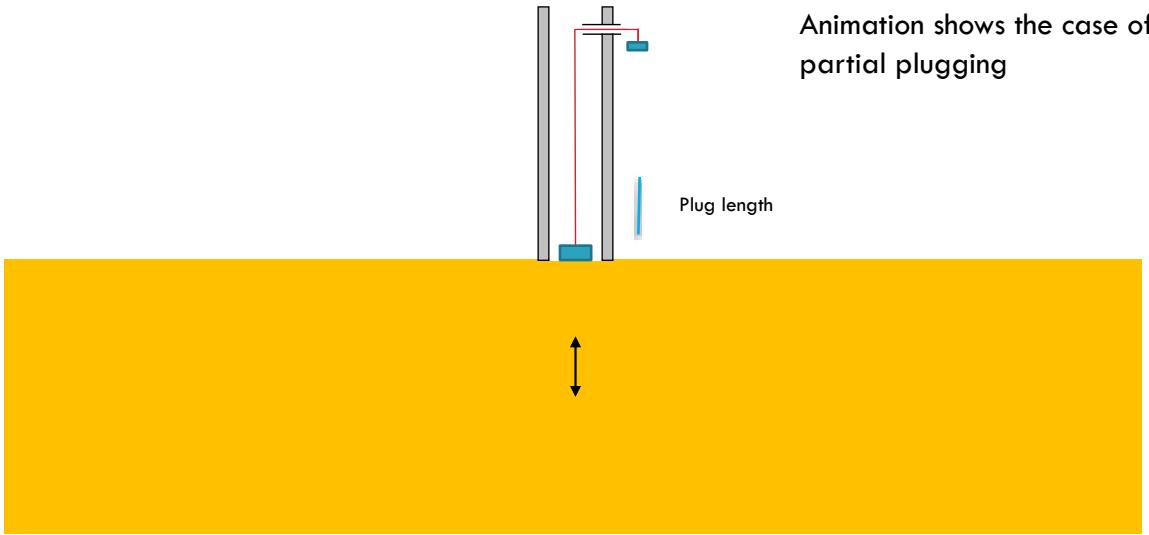
- IFR and PLR are recognized as the key factors in modern design methods (Purdue method, UWA method) for open-ended piles
- Study is still needed to learn how to predict plug formation and its effect on the pile's resistances

Paik, K., and Salgado, R. (2003). "Determination of Bearing Capacity of Open-Ended Piles in Sand." *Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering*, 129(1), 46–57.

Lehane, B. M., Schneider, J. a., and Xu, X. (2005). "The UWA-05 Method for Prediction of Axial Capacity of Driven Piles in Sand." *Proceedings of the International Symposium on Frontiers in Offshore Geotechnics (IS-FOG 2005)*, 683–689.

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## Plug measurement



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## Pile Driving

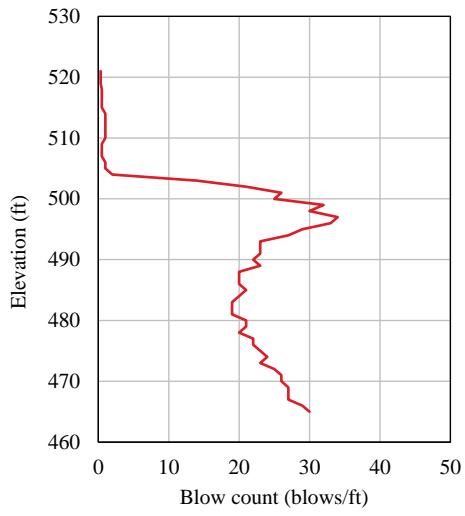
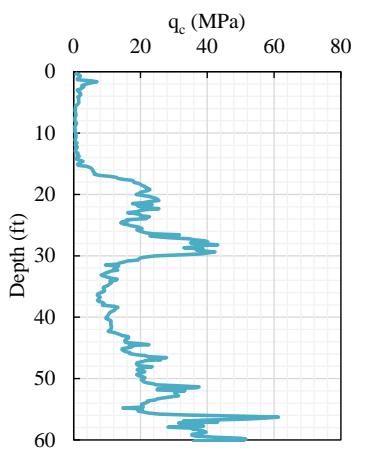


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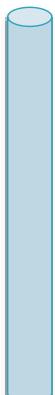
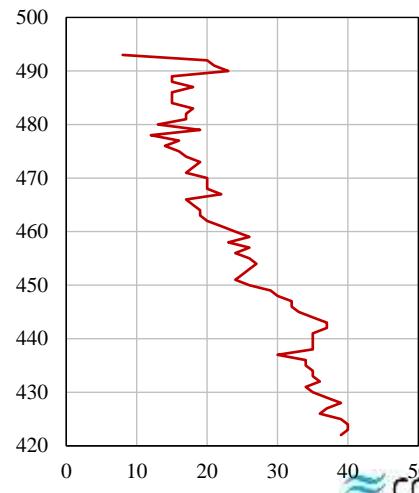
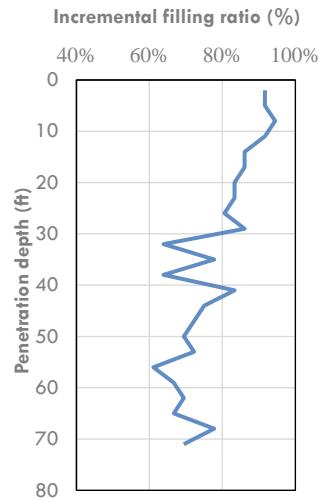
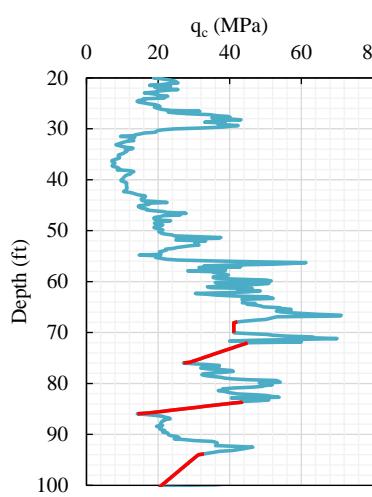
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## Driving resistance - closed-ended pile



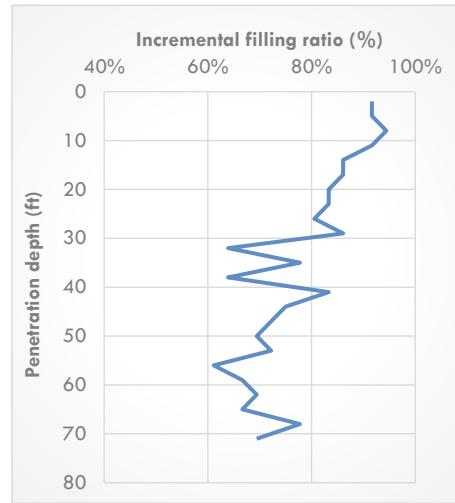
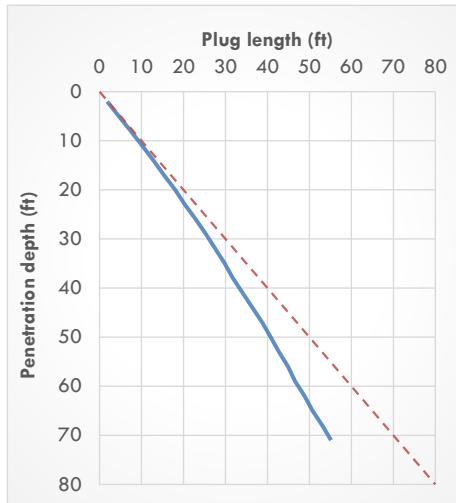
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## Pile driving resistance – open-ended pile



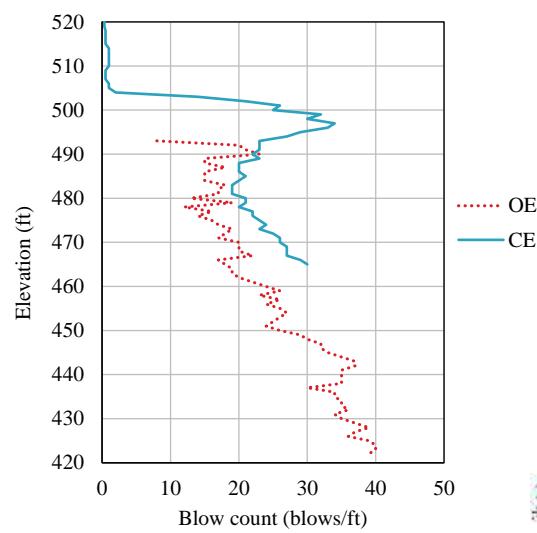
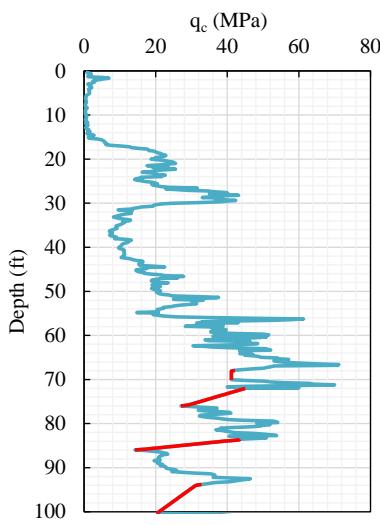
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## Plug measurement



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## Driving resistance - comparison



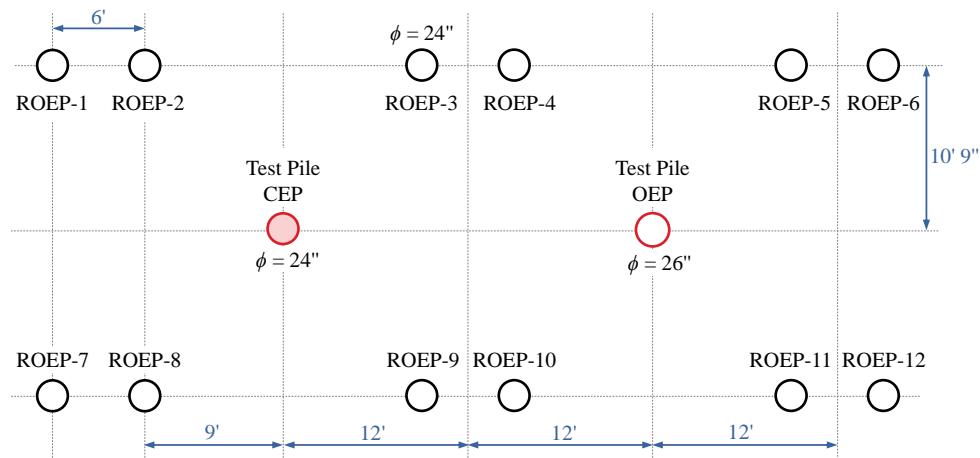
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## Static Pile Load Test



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## Static load test - layout



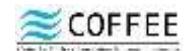
(ROEP: reaction open-ended pipe pile; CEP: closed-ended pipe pile; OEP: open-ended pipe pile)



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## Static load test

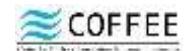


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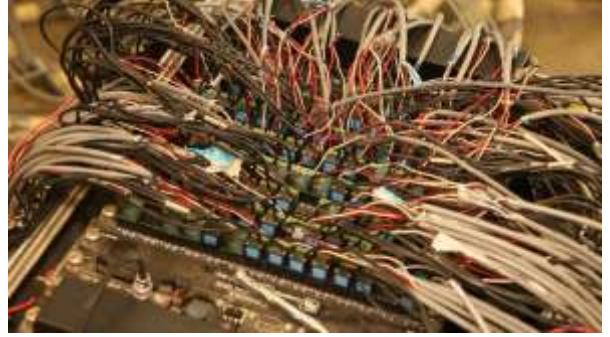
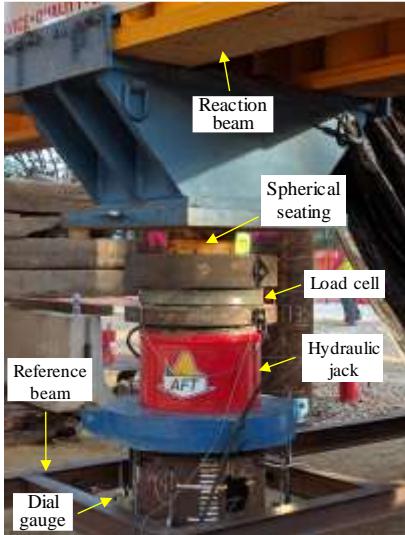
## Static load test



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## Static load test



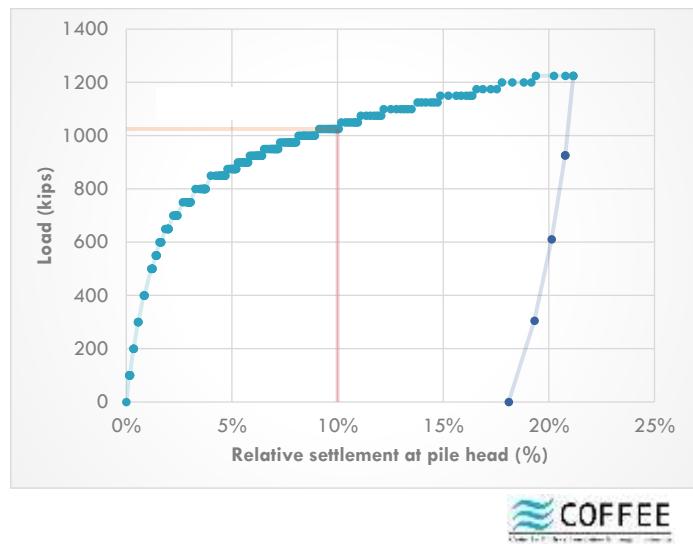
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## Closed-ended pipe pile

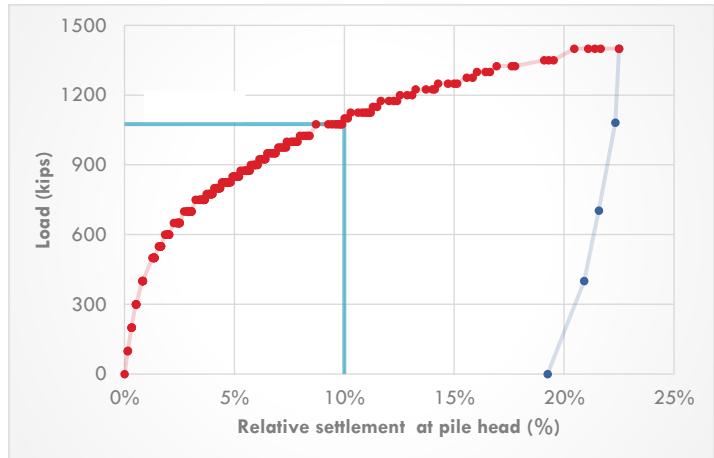
- Load settlement curve
  - Ultimate load: 1025 kips
  - Plunging load: 1225 kips
- Resistance components
  - Shaft: 537 kips
  - Base: 488 kips



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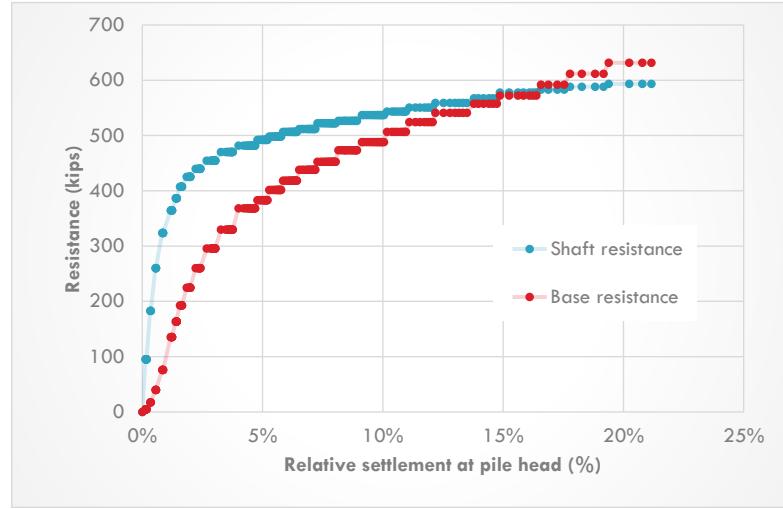
## Open-ended pipe pile

- Load settlement curve
  - Ultimate load: 1075 kips
  - Plunging load: 1400 kips
- Resistance components
  - Shaft: 576 kips
  - Plug: 80 kips
  - Annulus: 419 kips



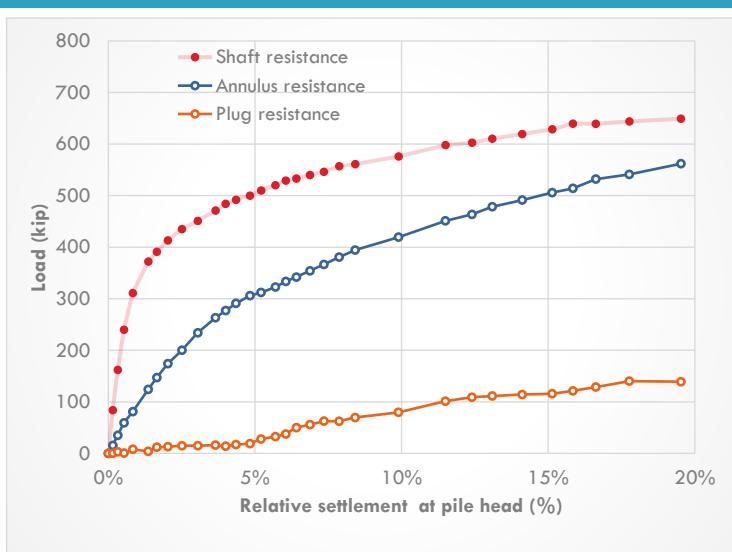
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## Resistance components - closed-ended pile



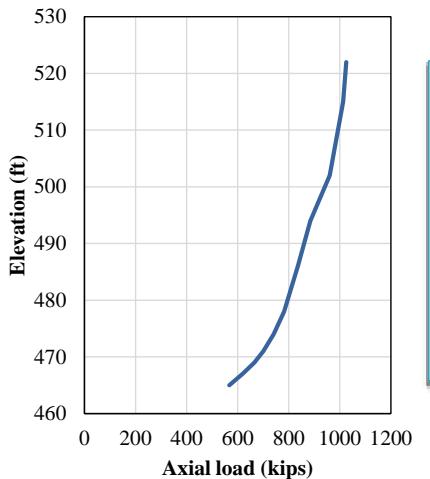
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## Resistance components - open-ended pile

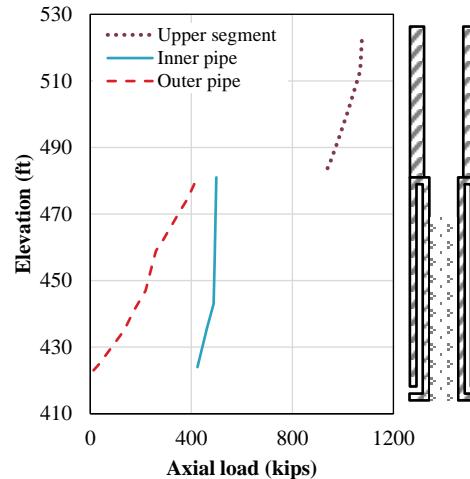


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## Load transfer curve



**Closed-ended pile**

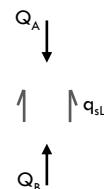
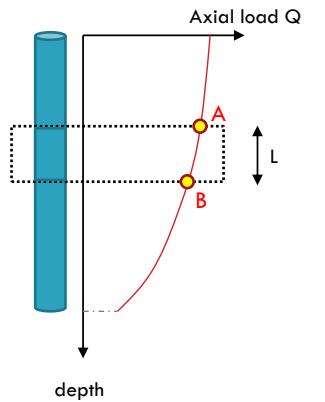


**Open-ended pile**



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## Unit shaft resistance calculation

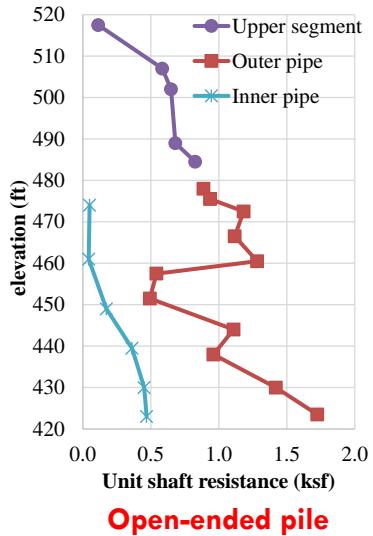


$$q_{sL} = \frac{Q_A - Q_B}{\pi B L}$$

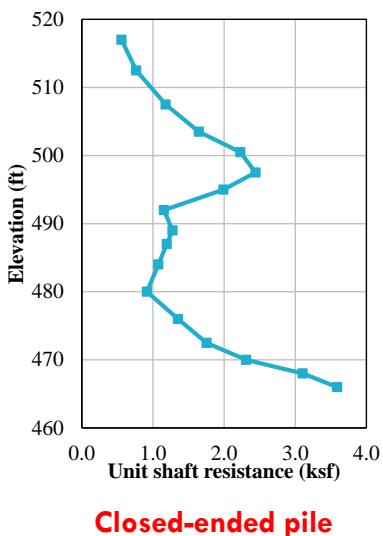


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## Unit shaft resistance



Open-ended pile

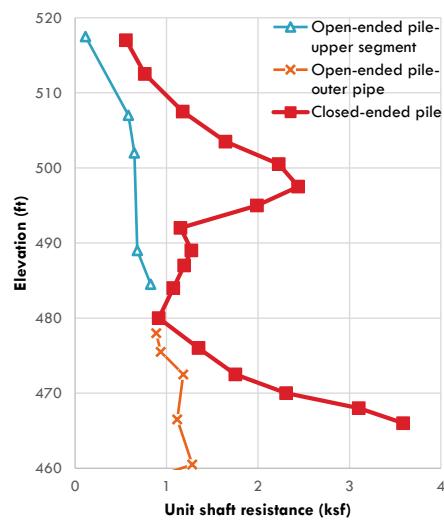


Closed-ended pile



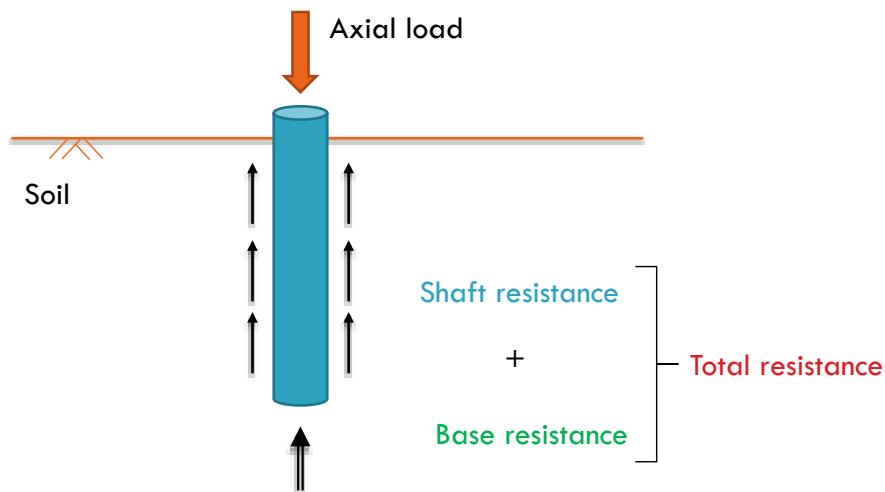
71

## Unit shaft resistance - comparisons



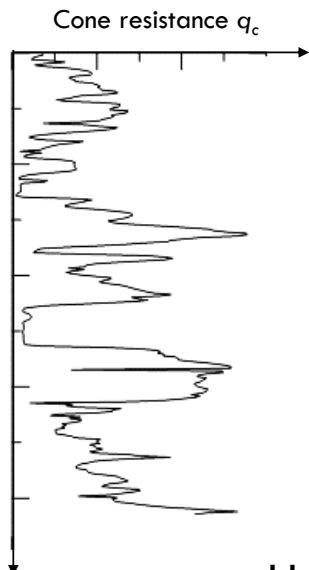
72

# Components of Pile Resistance



73

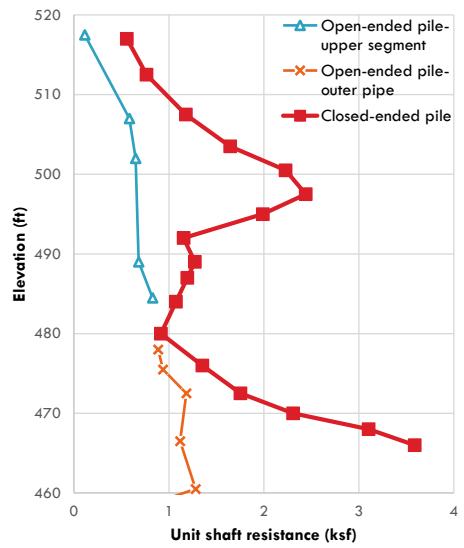
CPT



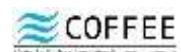
Design Methods

**CPT resistances correlated with measured resistances in PLTs**

PLTs



Unit shaft resistance  $q_{sL}$



74

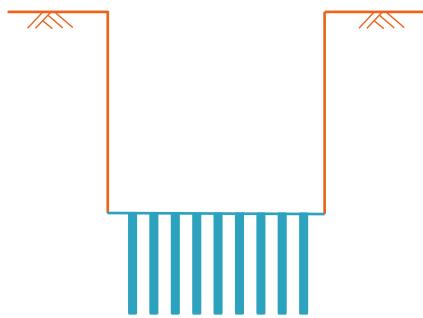
## Bridge Monitoring



75

## Construction stages

### Pile installation



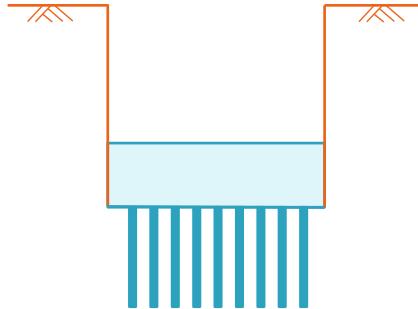
76



76

## Construction stages

### Pile cap pouring



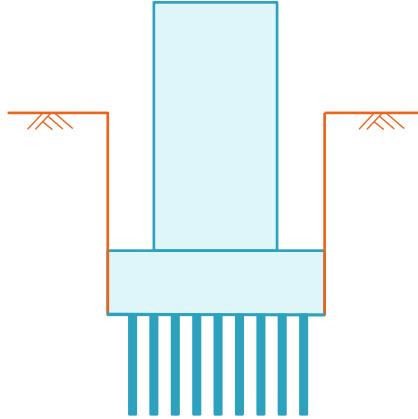
77



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## Construction stages

### Bridge pier pouring



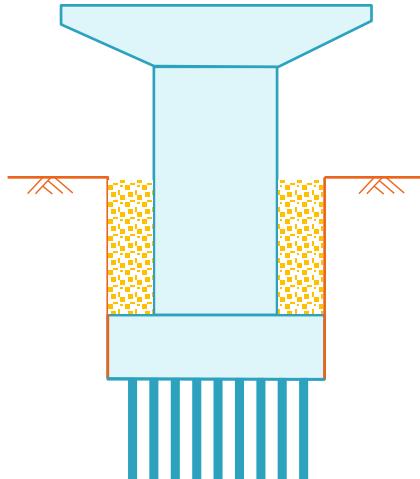
78



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## Construction stages



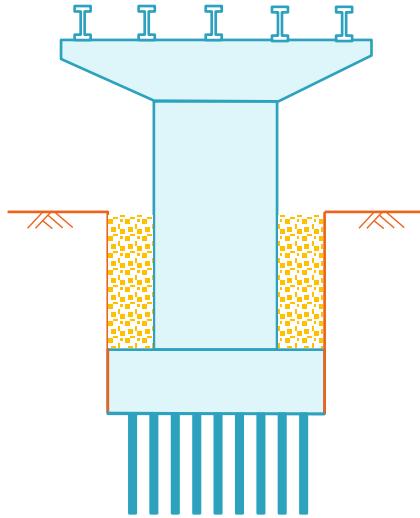
79



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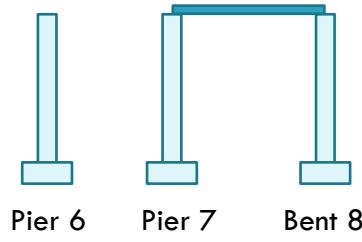
79

## Construction stages



80

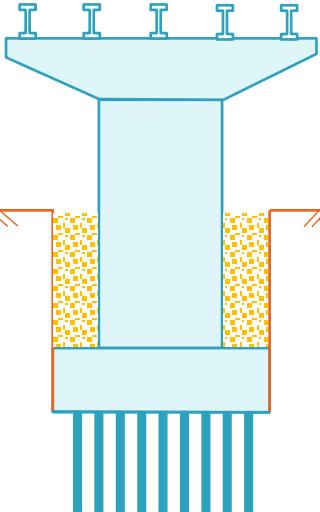
**Placement of beams over  
span 7-8**



80

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## Construction stages

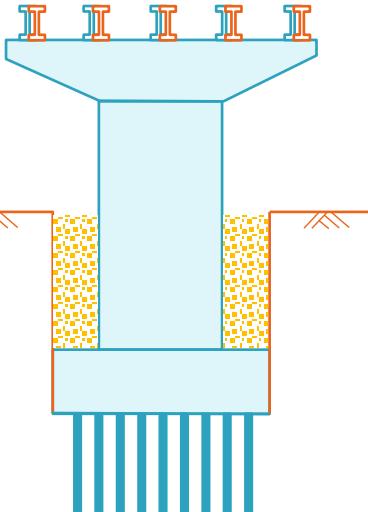


81



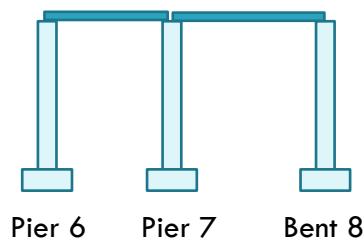
81

## Construction stages



82

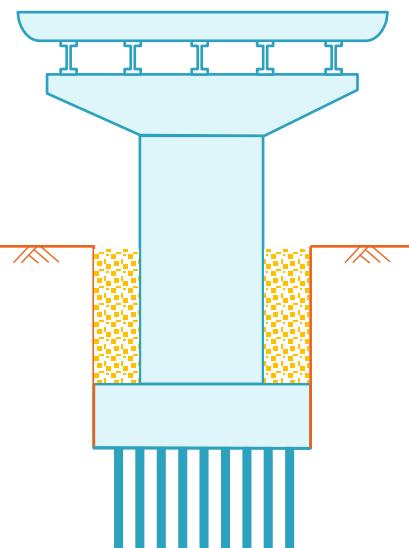
Placement of beams over  
span 6-7



82

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## Construction stages



**Construction of the bridge deck**

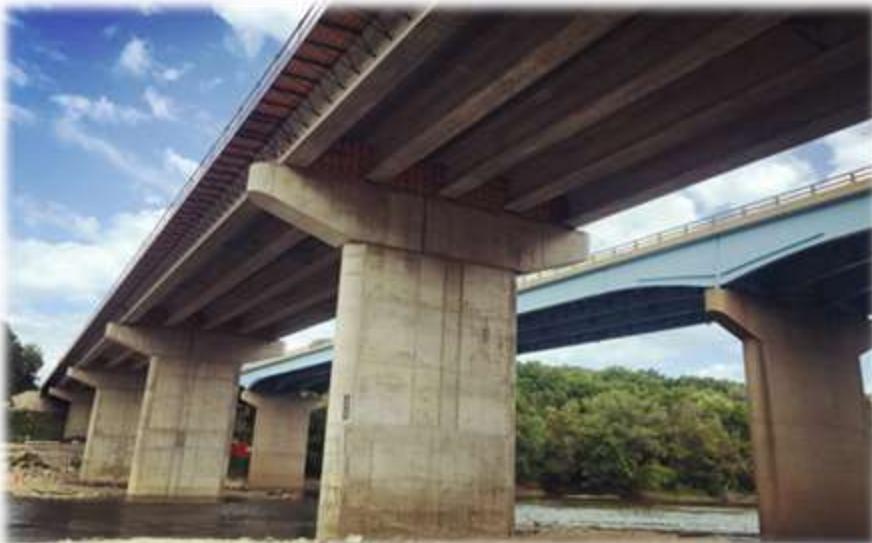


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83

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## Construction completed

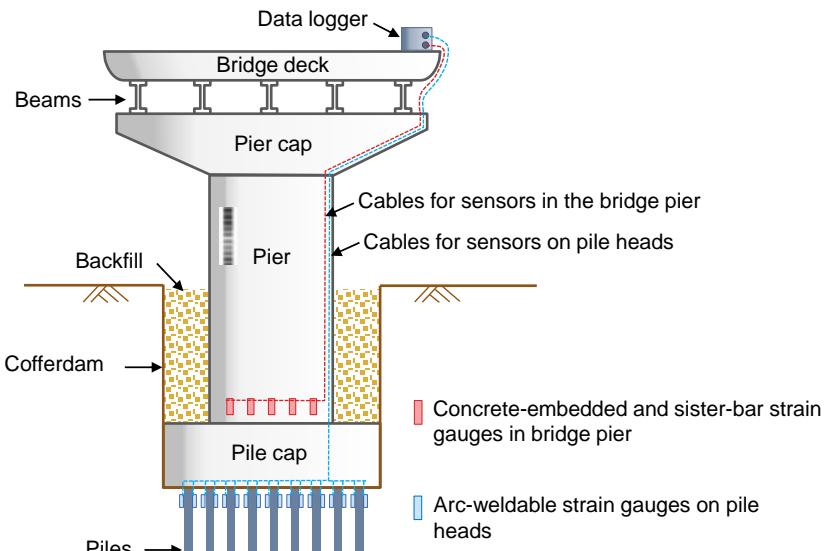


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## Instrumentation scheme

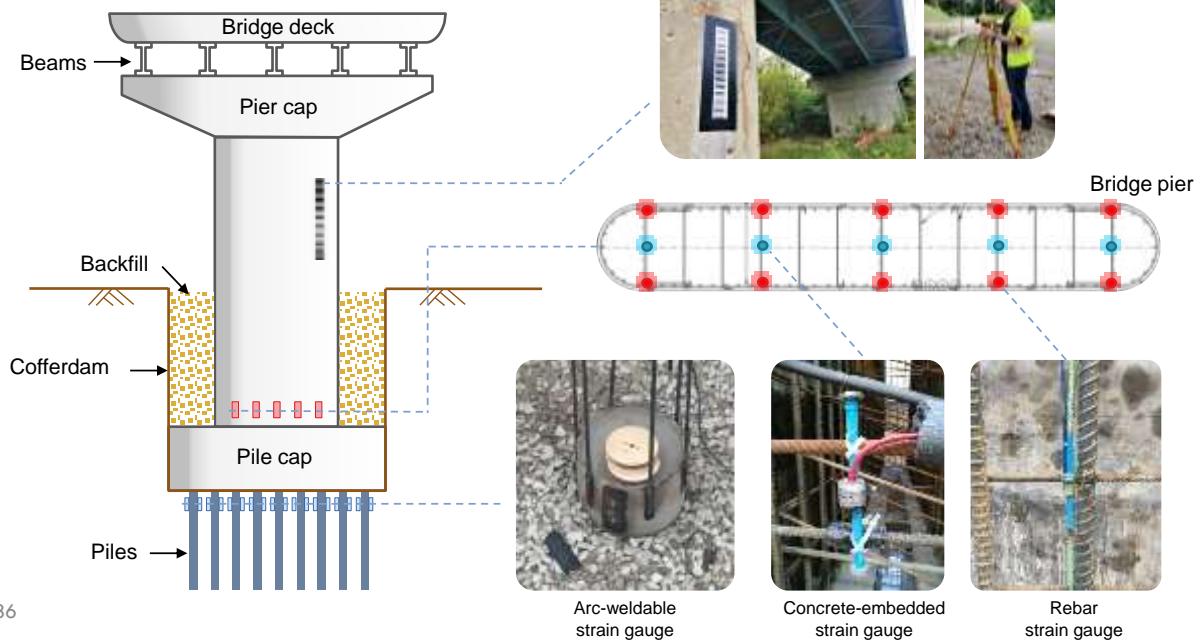


85



85

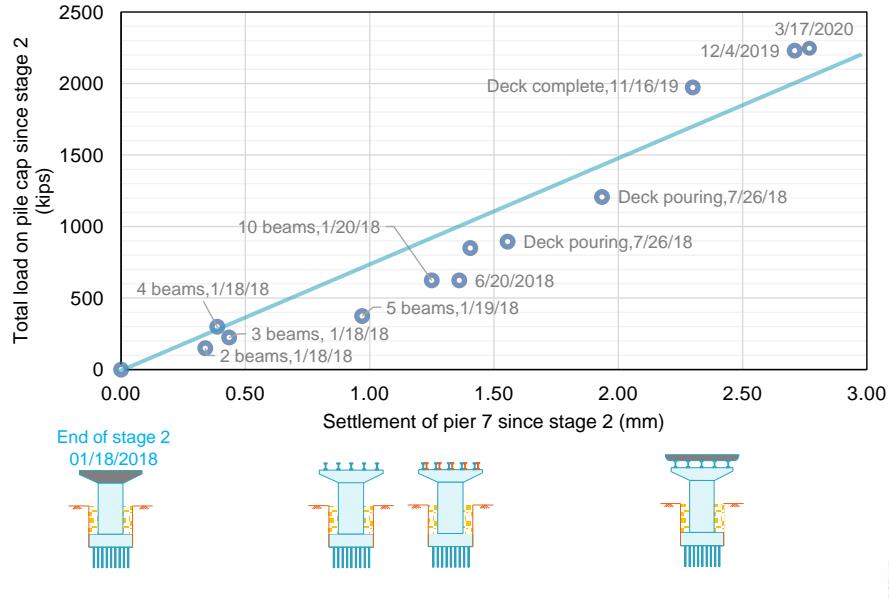
## Instrumentation scheme



86

86

# Load-settlement response of bridge pier

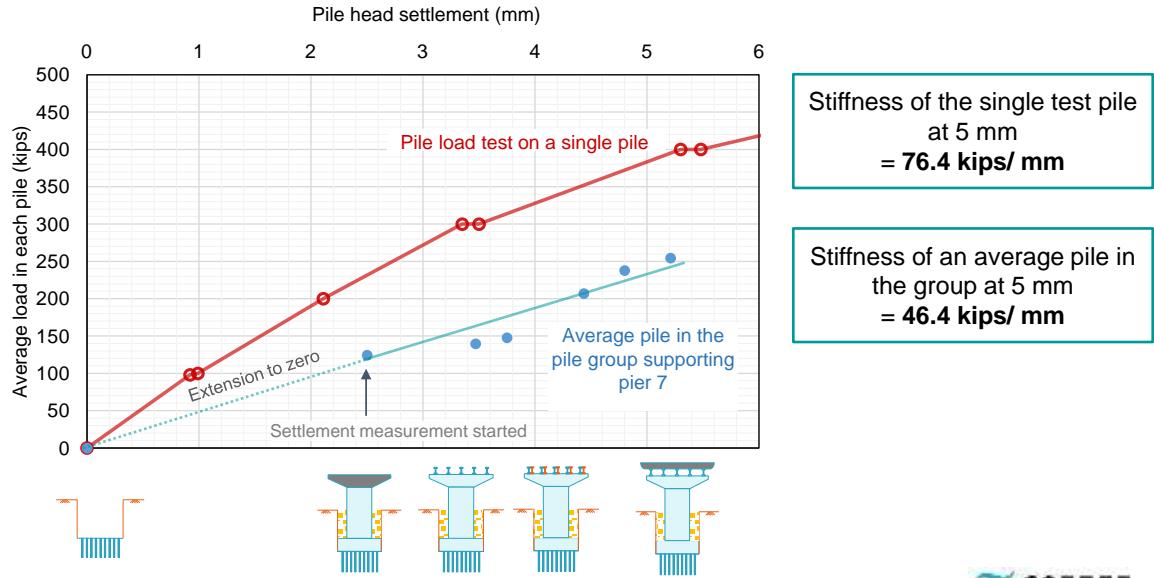


87

87

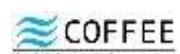


## Load-settlement response of piles

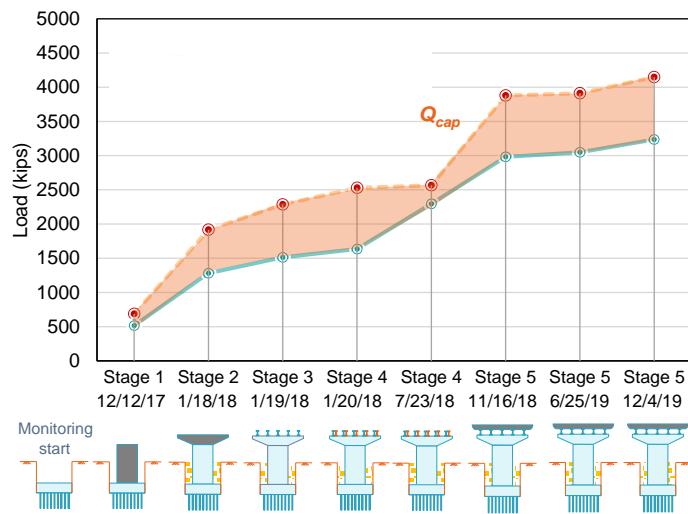


88

88



## Load transfer from bridge pier to piles

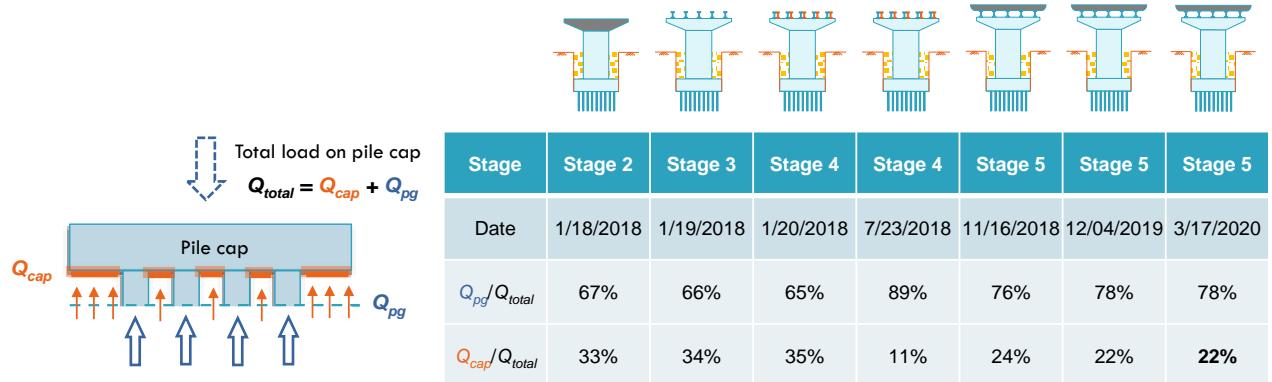


89

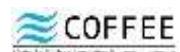


89

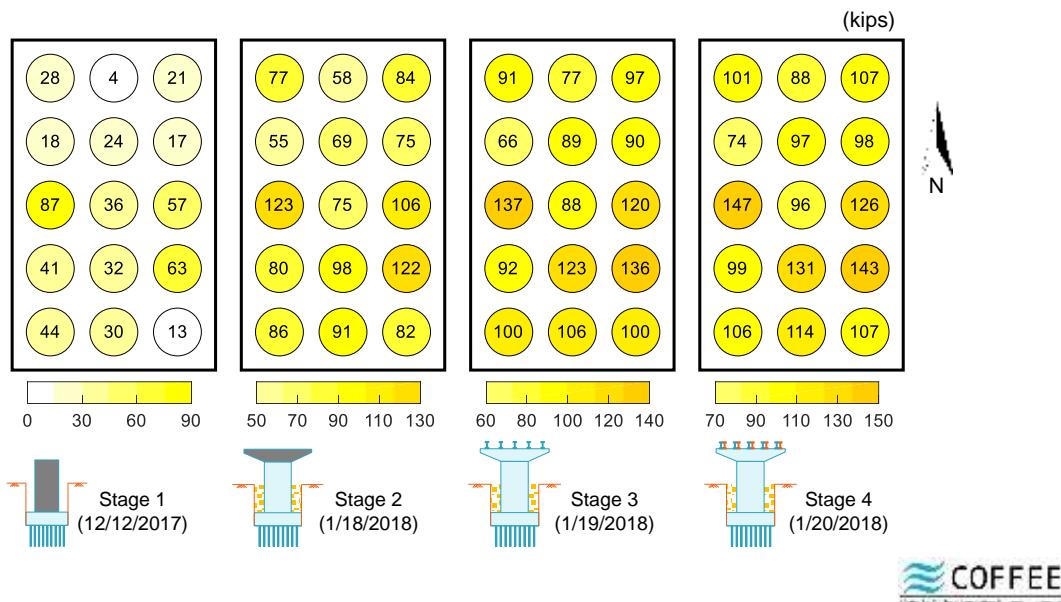
## Load transfer from bridge pier to piles



90



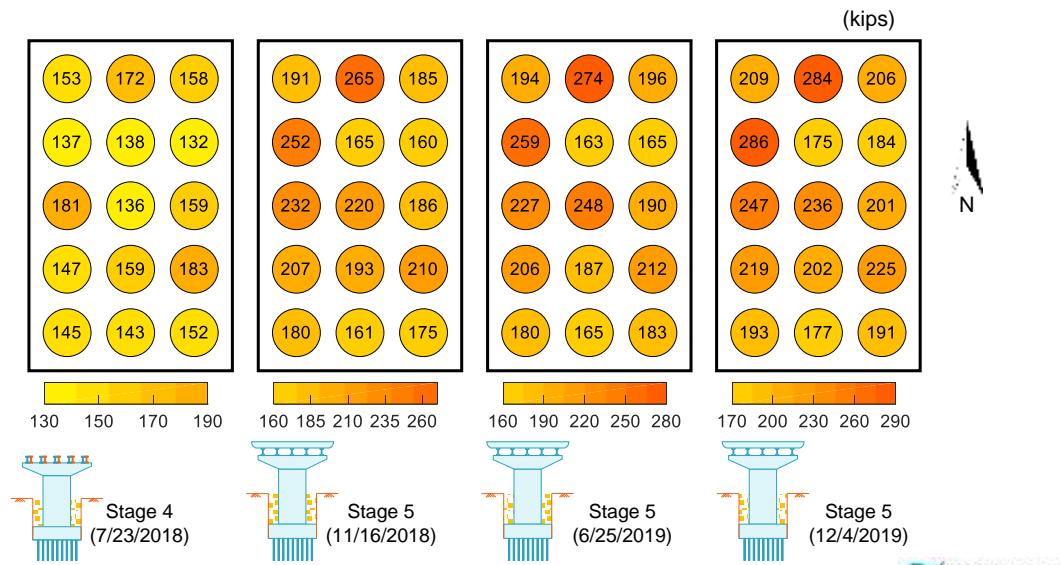
## Load distribution among piles in the group



91

91

## Load distribution among piles in the group



92

92

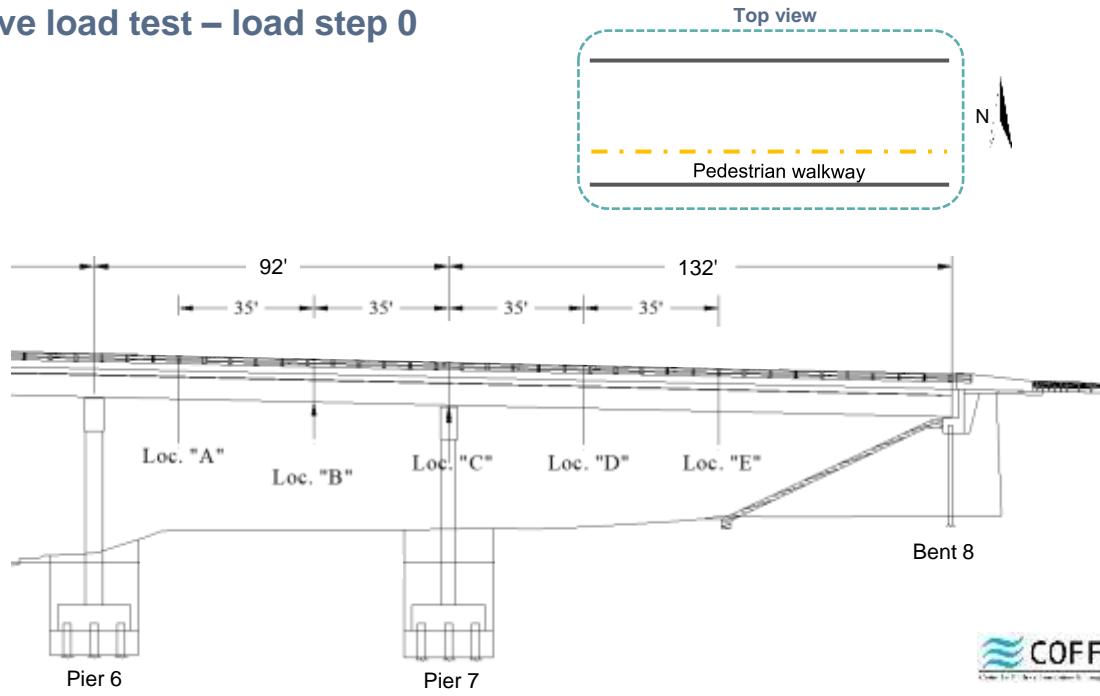
## Live Load Test

93



93

### Live load test – load step 0

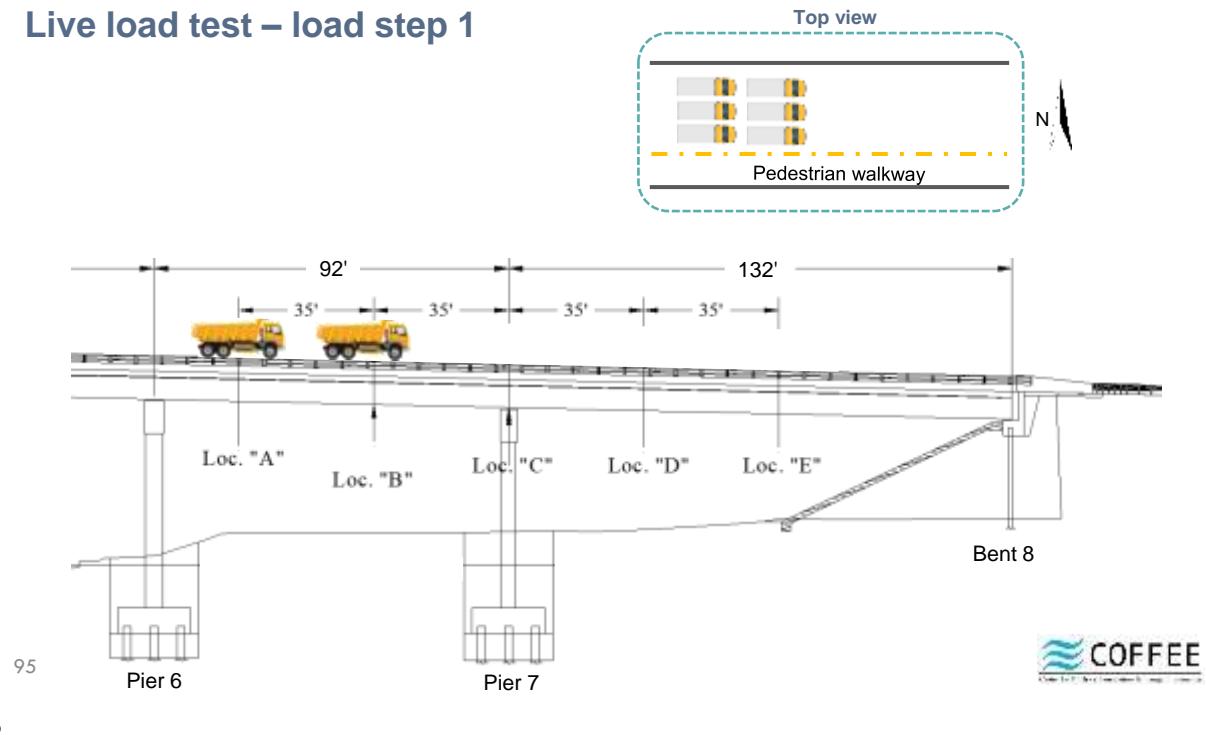


94



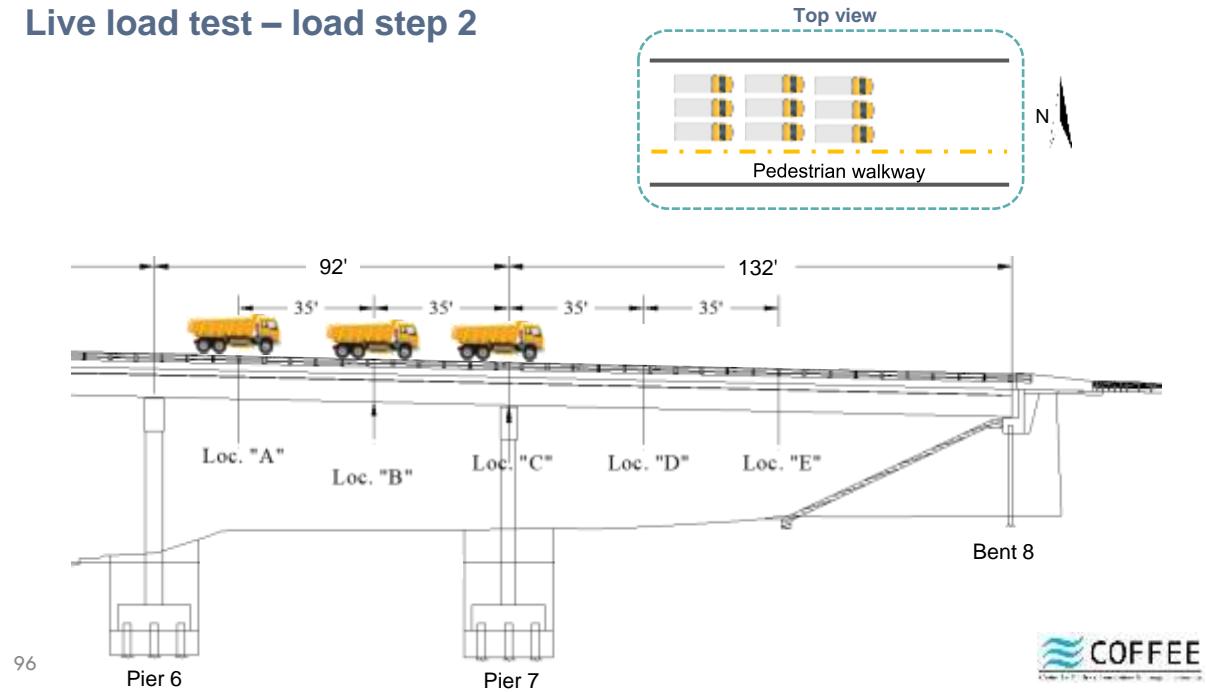
94

## Live load test – load step 1



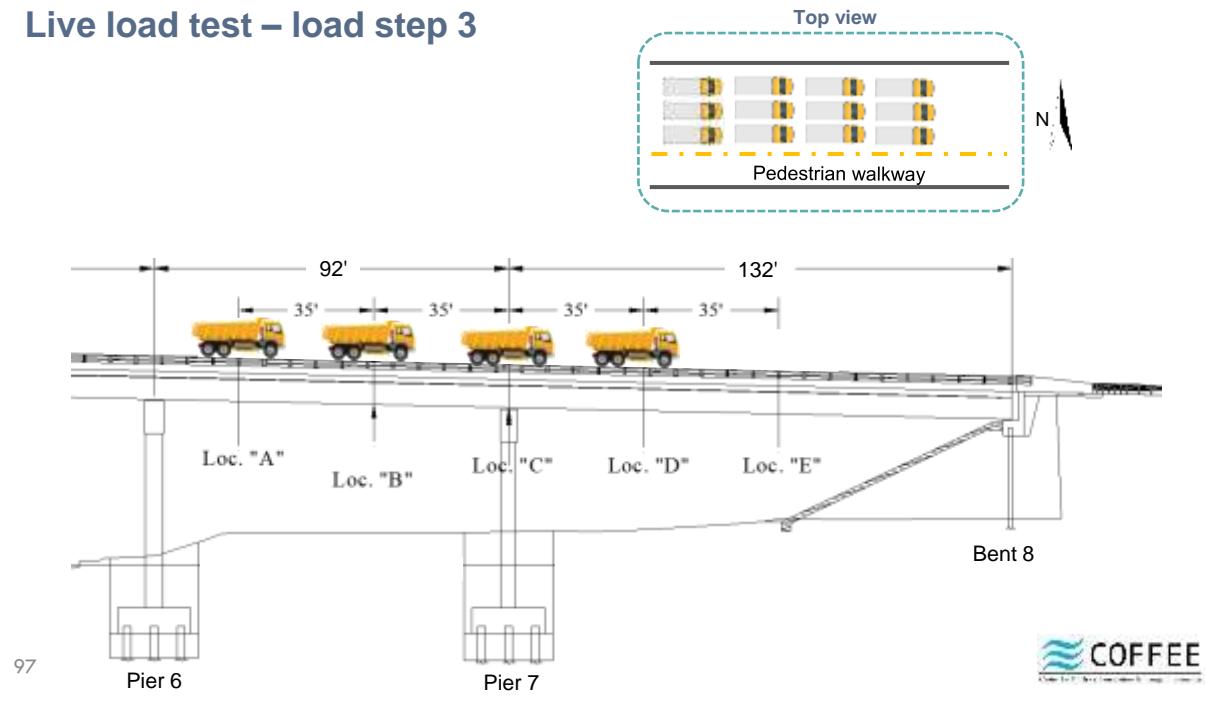
95

## Live load test – load step 2



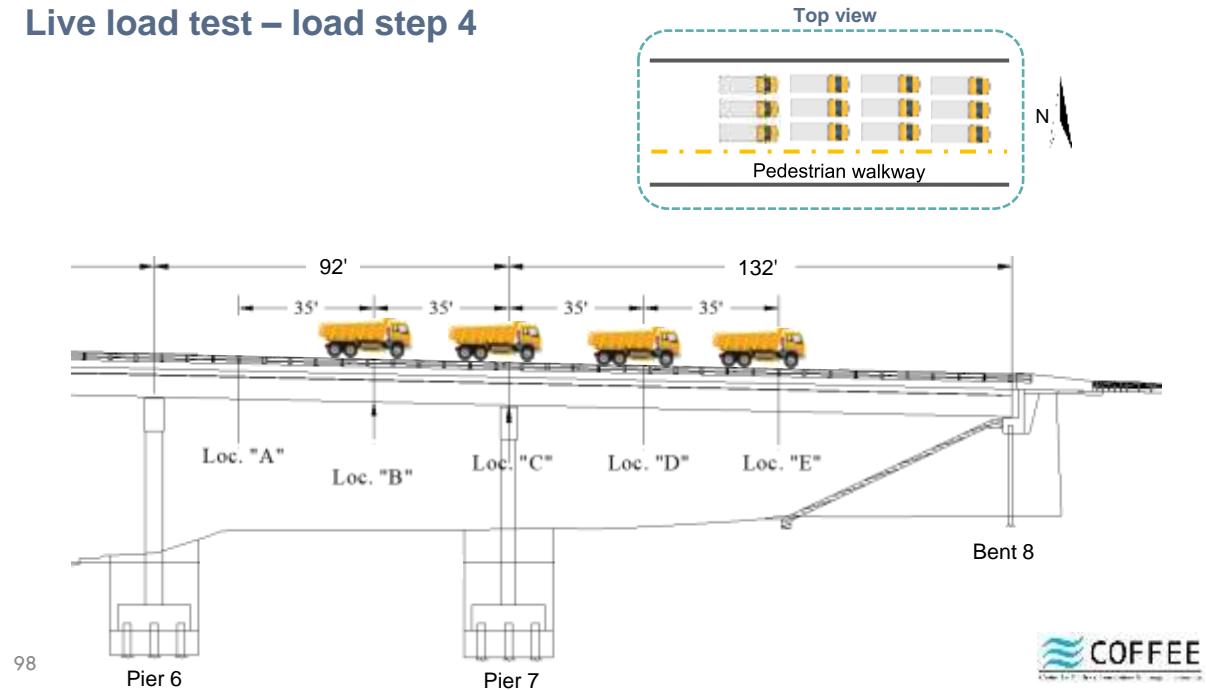
96

### Live load test – load step 3



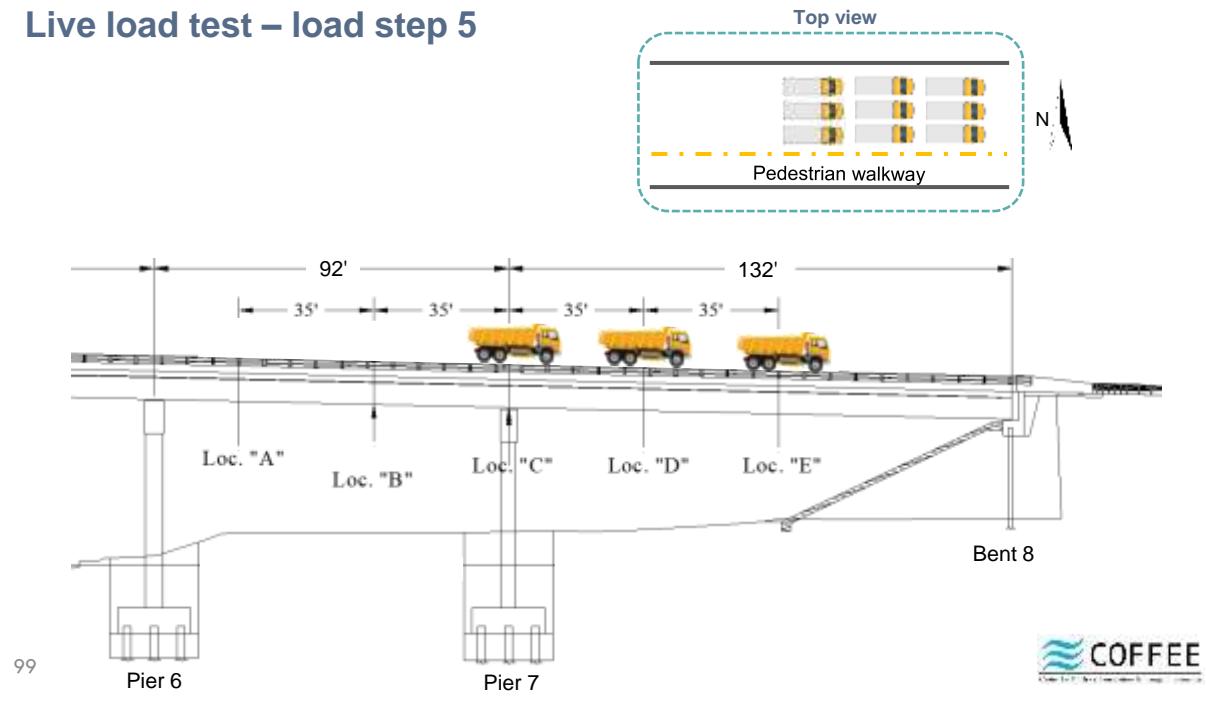
97

### Live load test – load step 4



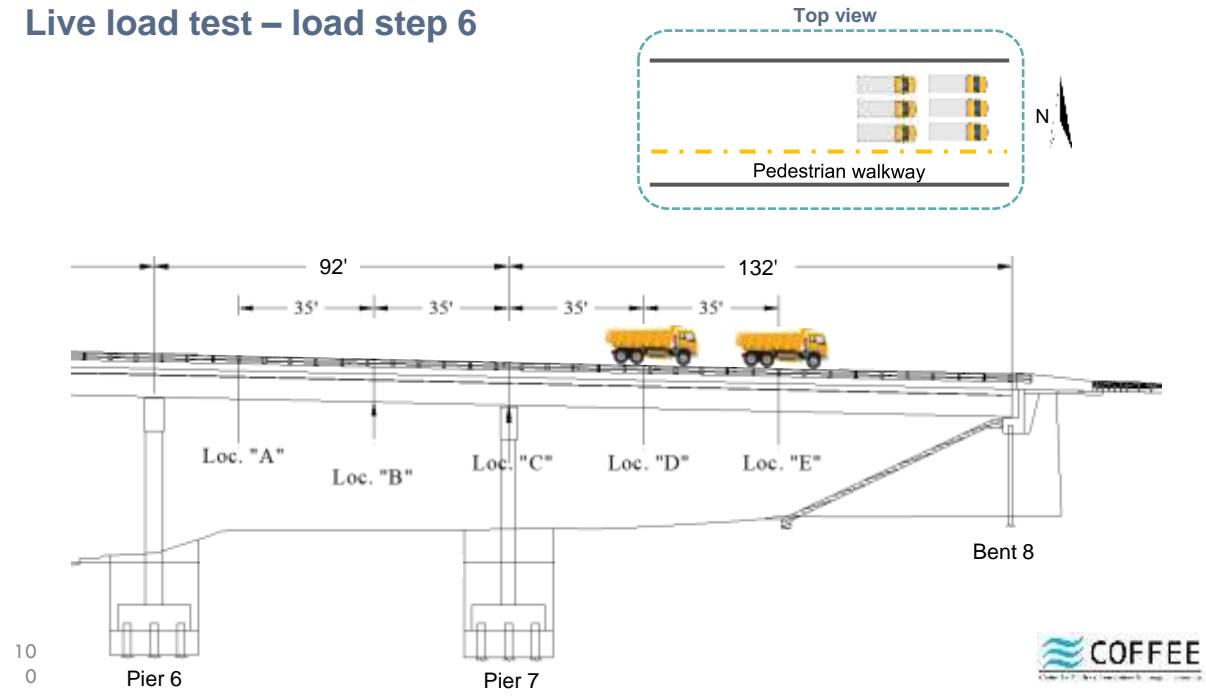
98

## Live load test – load step 5



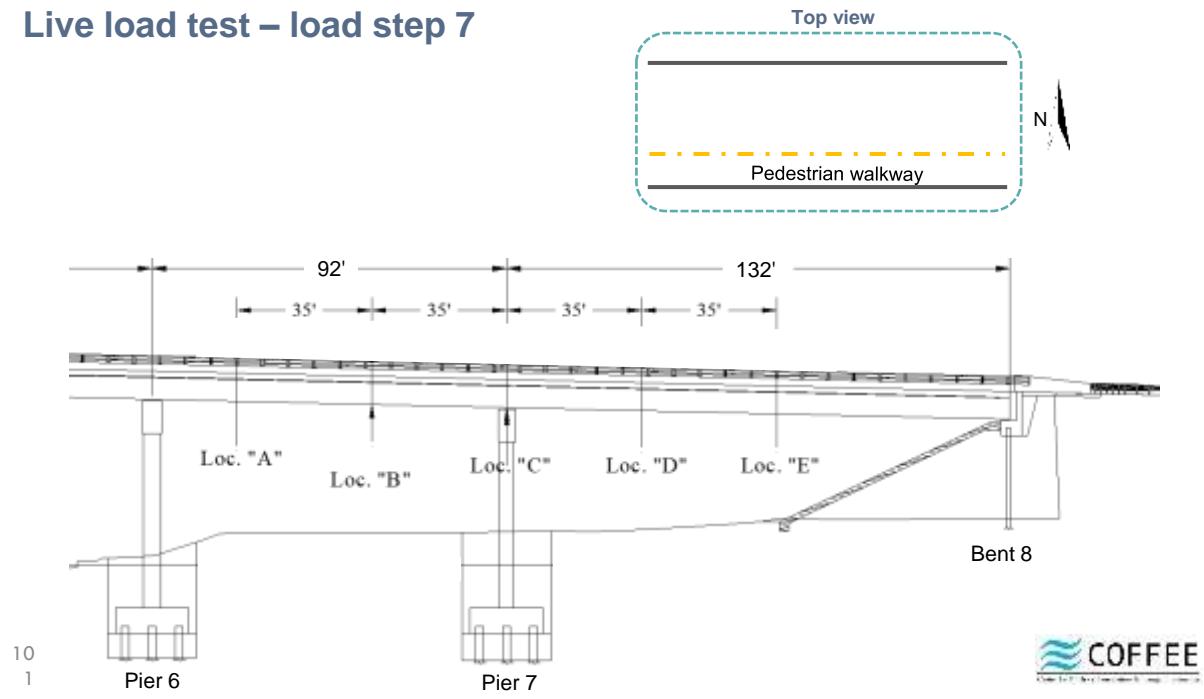
99

## Live load test – load step 6



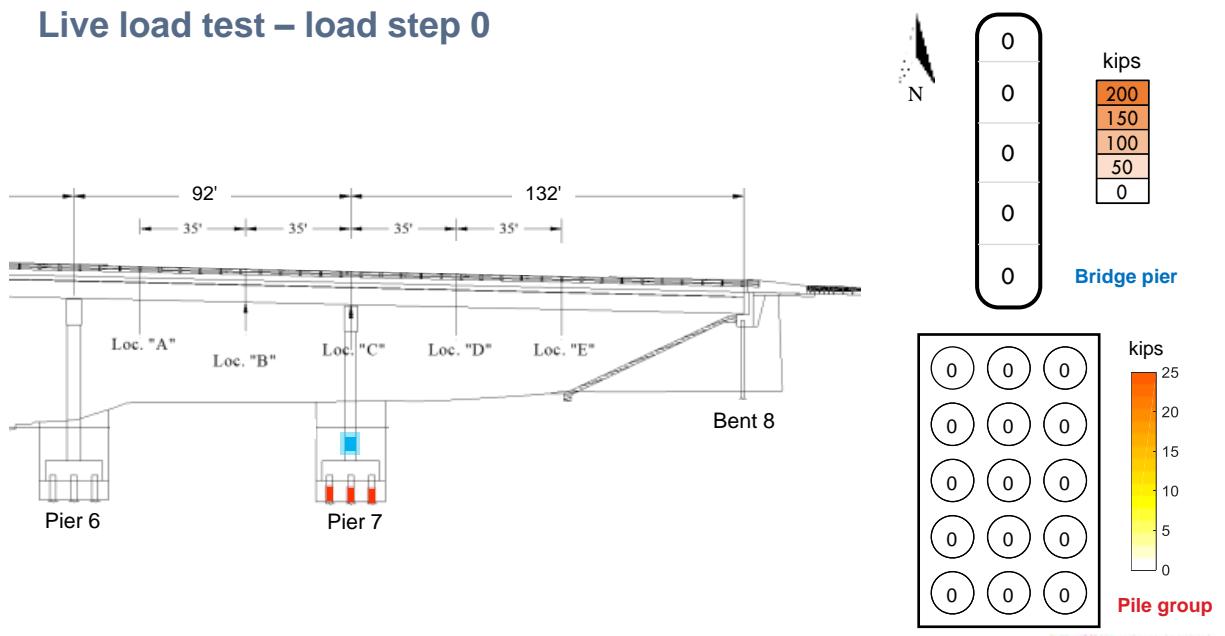
100

## Live load test – load step 7



101

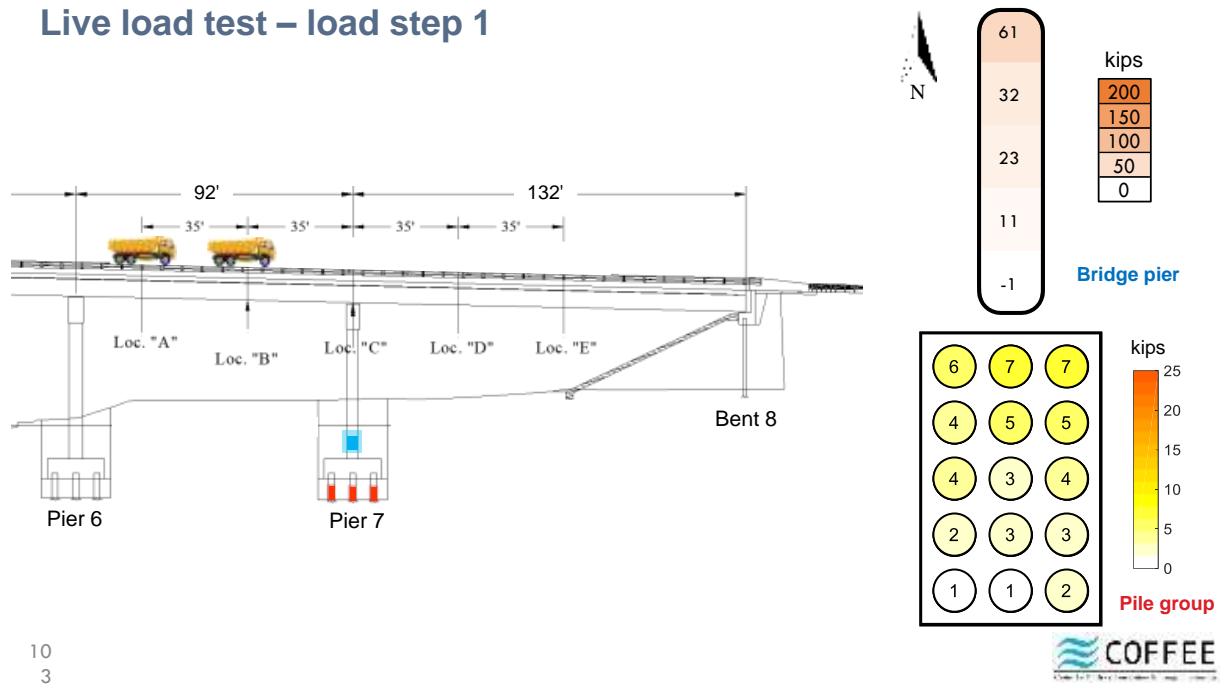
## Live load test – load step 0



10 2

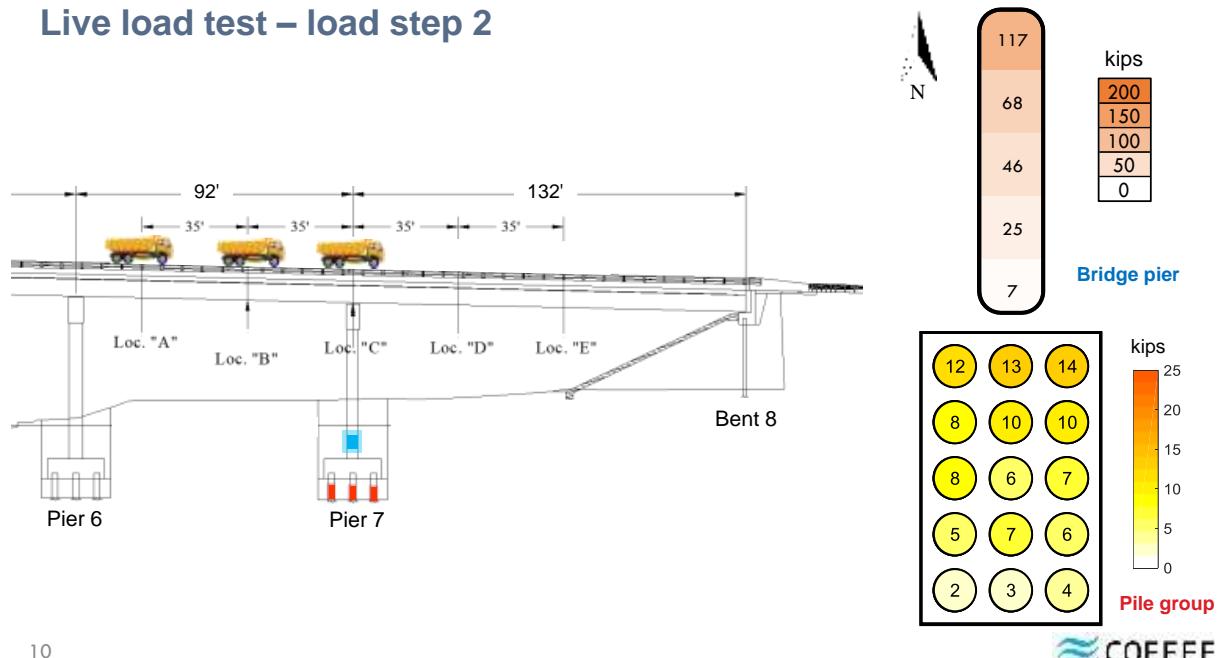
102

## Live load test – load step 1



103

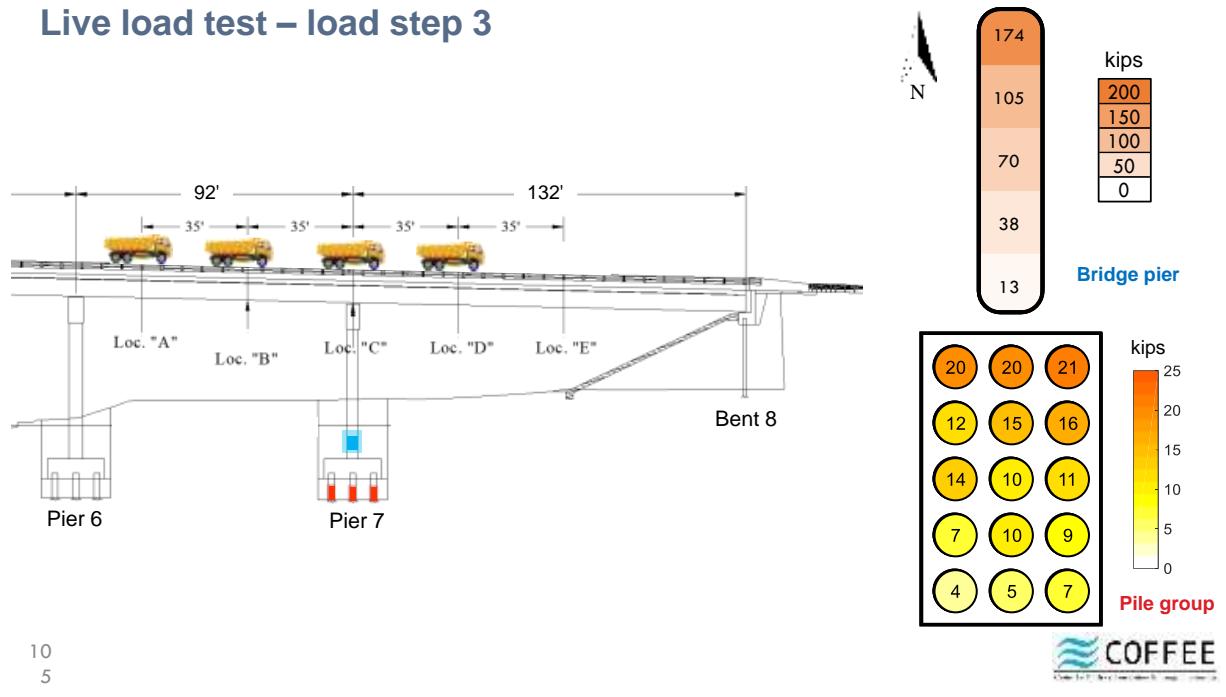
## Live load test – load step 2



10  
4

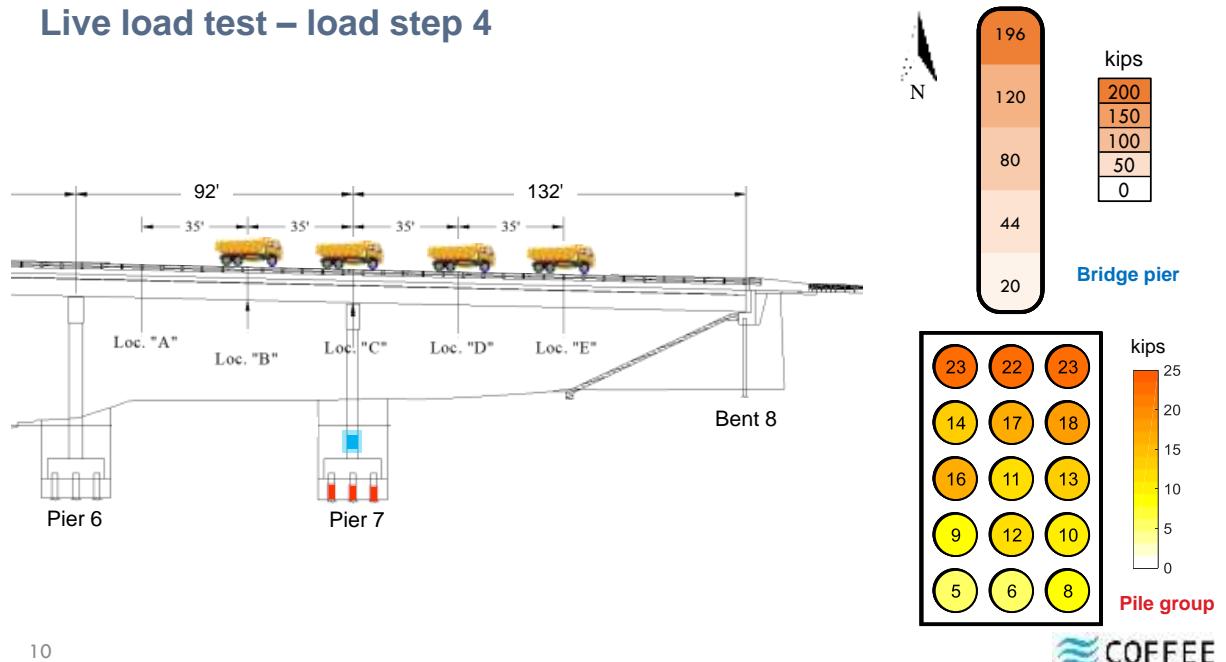
104

### Live load test – load step 3



105

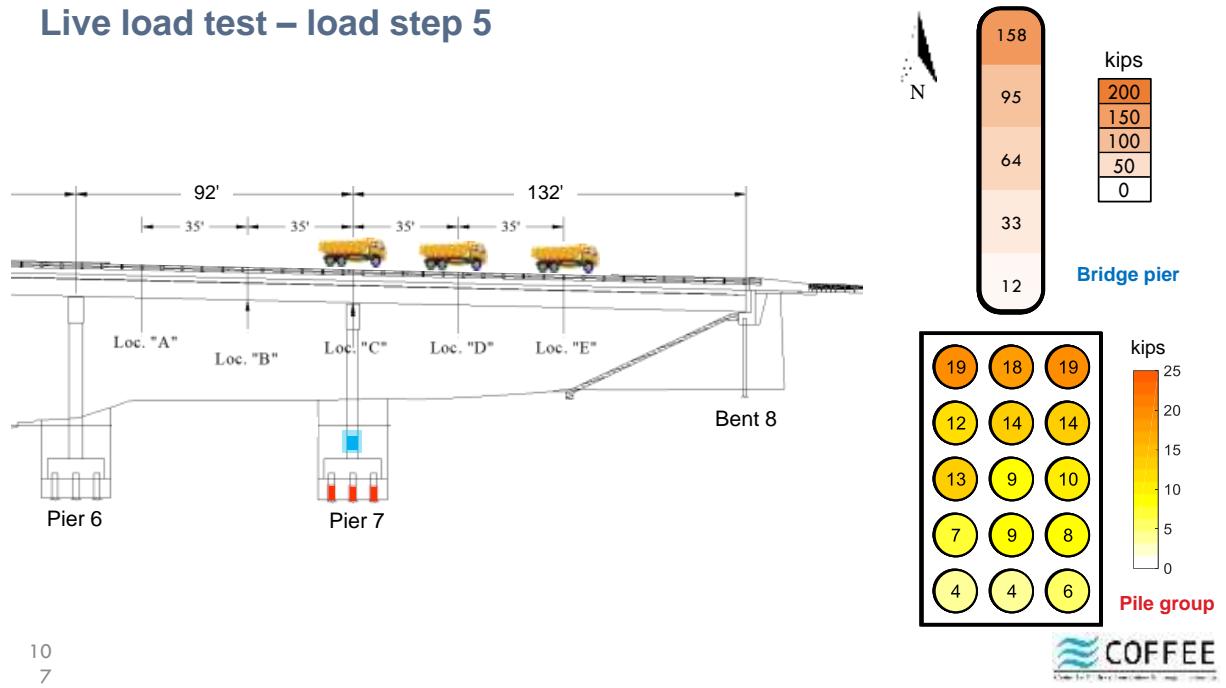
### Live load test – load step 4



10  
6

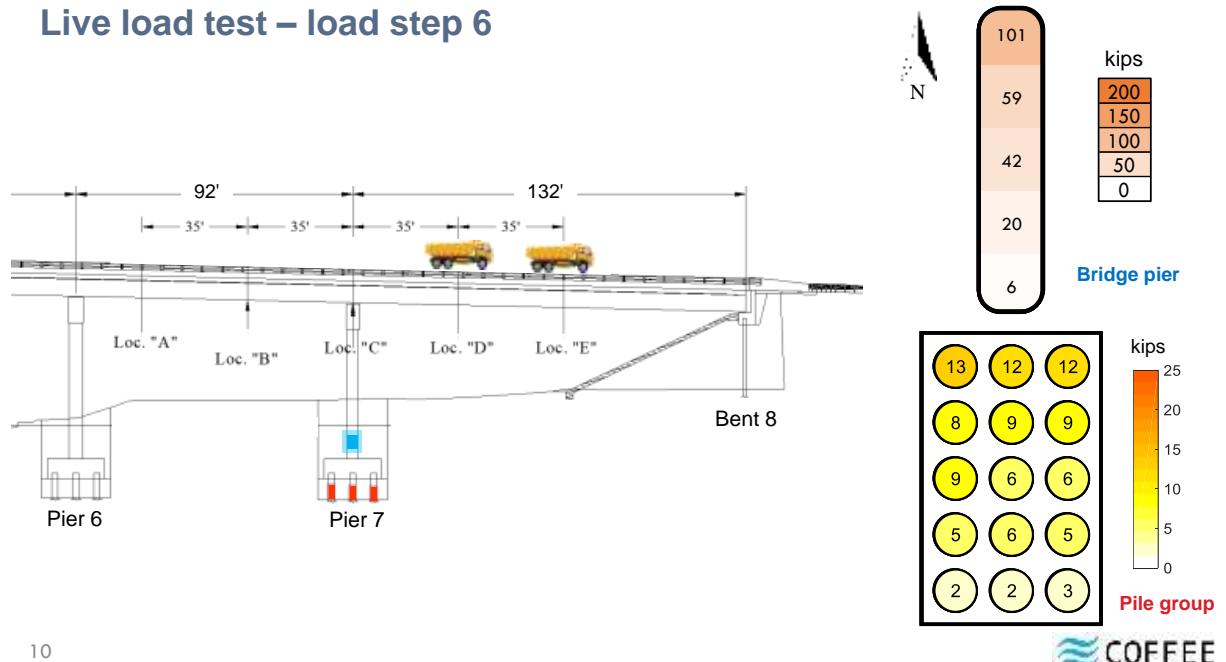
106

## Live load test – load step 5



107

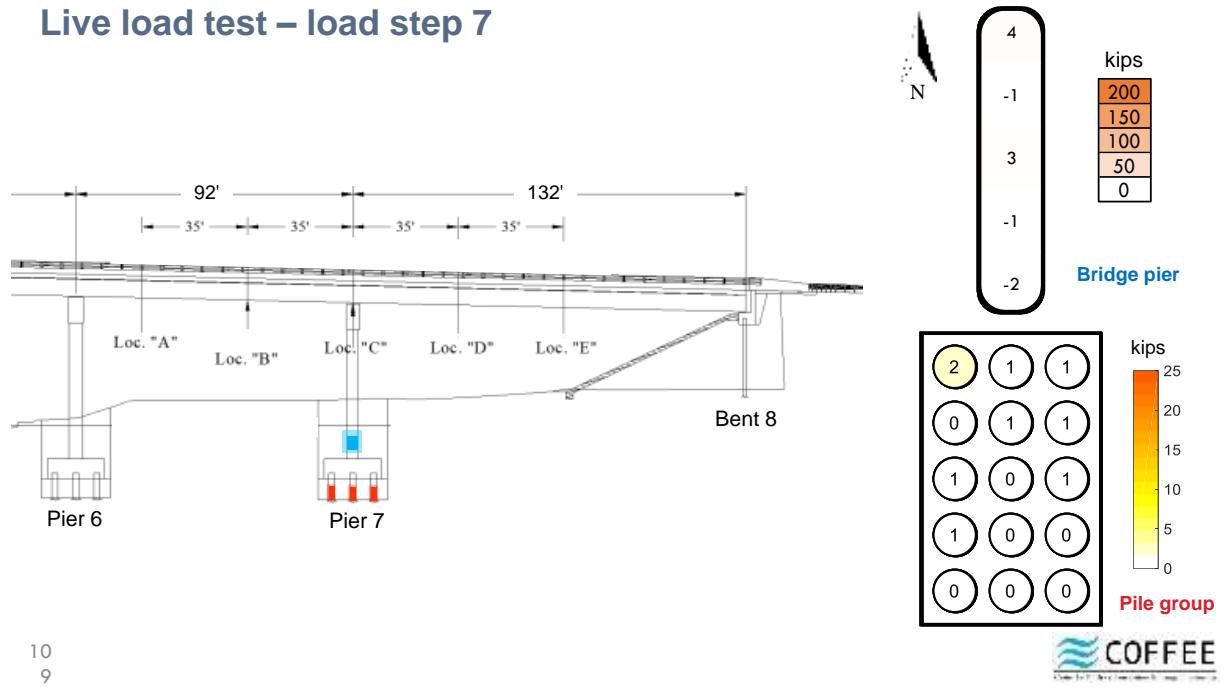
## Live load test – load step 6



10  
8

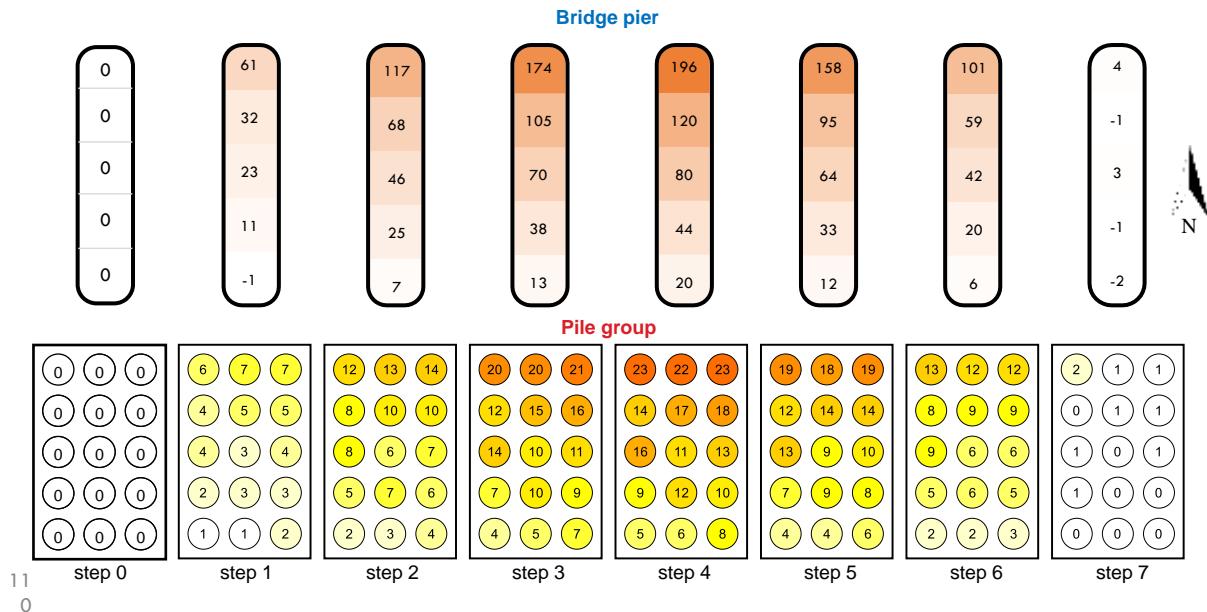
108

## Live load test – load step 7



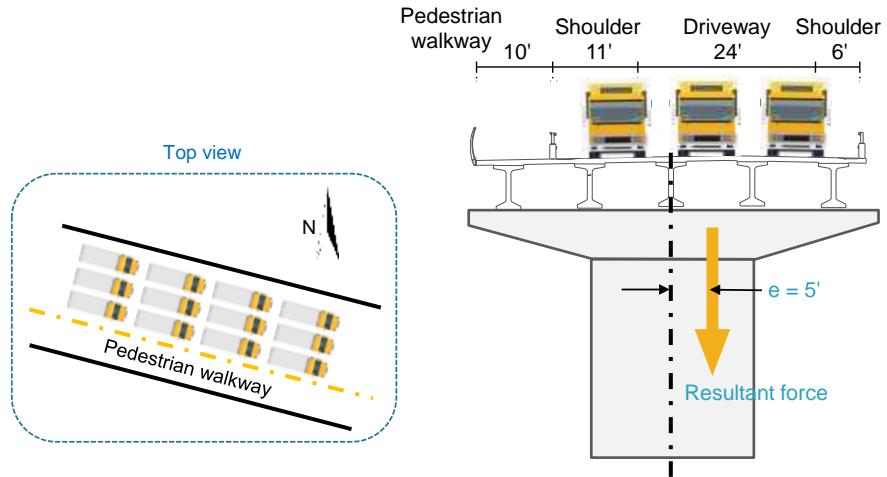
109

## Live load test – load history



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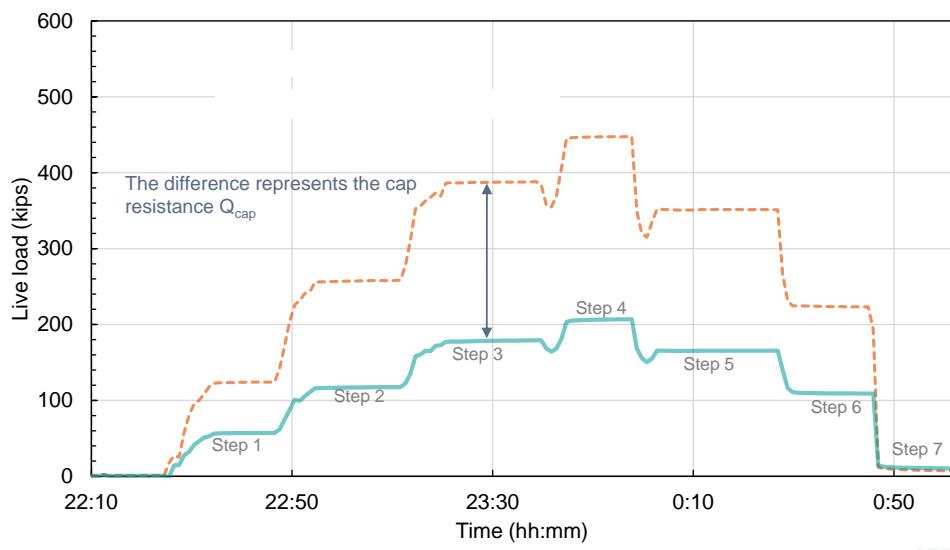
## Live load test – load eccentricity



11  
1

111

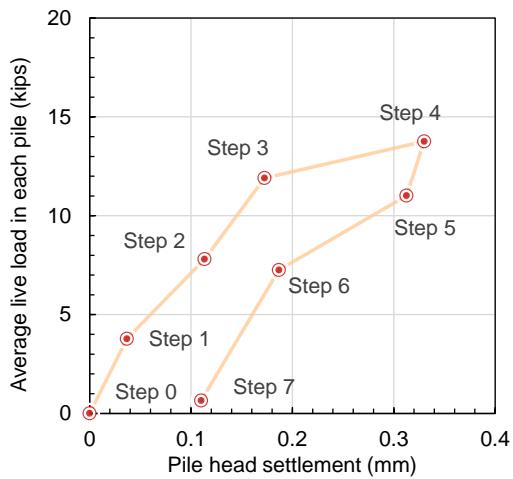
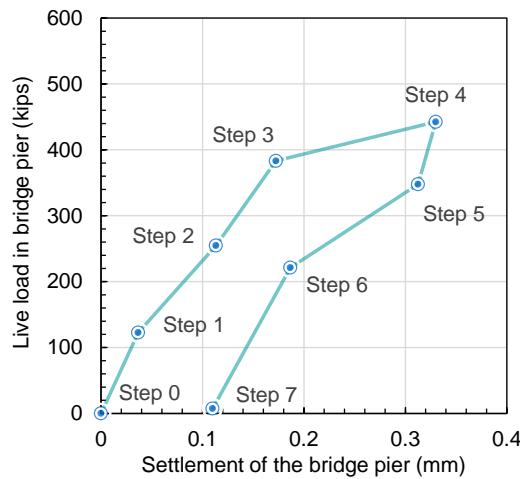
## Live load test – load transfer



11  
2

112

## Live load test – load-settlement response



11  
3

113



11  
4

114



## Highlights and Implementation



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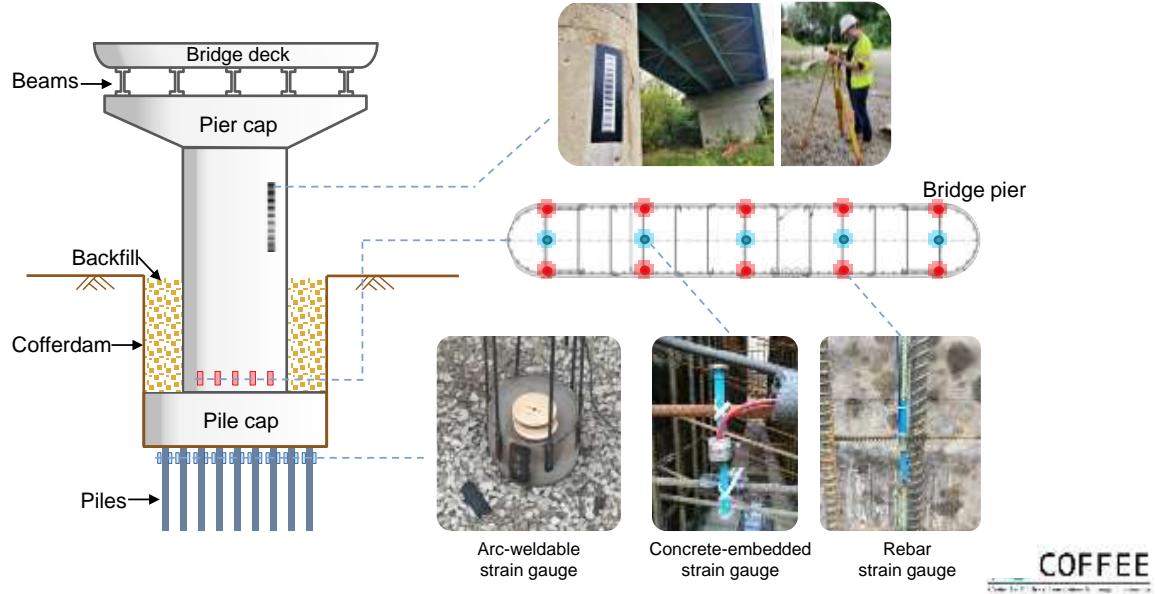
### Rare case history with complete dataset

- ❑ Full site investigation and soil characterization
- ❑ Dynamic and static load tests on fully instrumented test piles
- ❑ Load and settlement monitoring of the bridge pier and its foundation elements under dead and live loads during and after bridge construction

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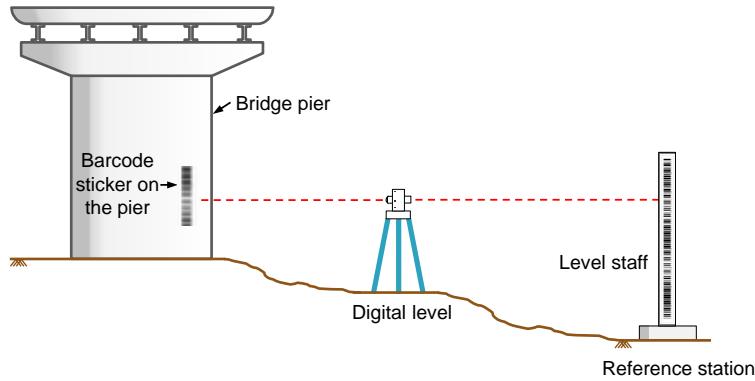
## Implementation: instrumentation scheme



11  
7

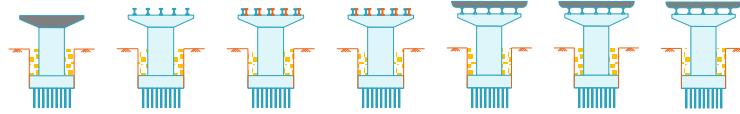
117

## Implementation: instrumentation scheme



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## Pile cap contribution

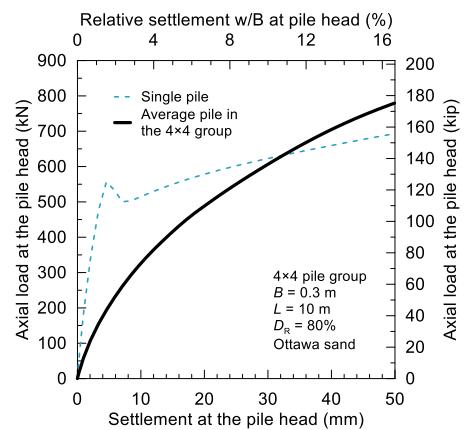
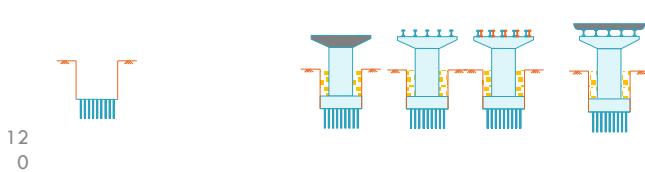
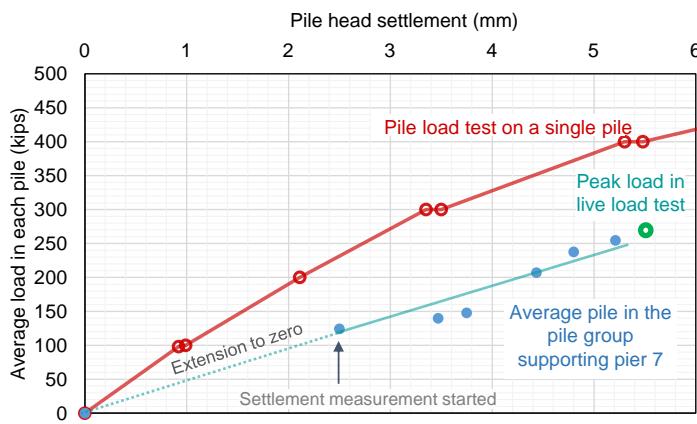


Stage	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 5	Stage 5
Date	1/18/2018	1/19/2018	1/20/2018	7/23/2018	11/16/2018	12/04/2019	3/17/2020
$Q_{pg}/Q_{total}$	67%	66%	65%	89%	76%	78%	78%
$Q_{cap}/Q_{total}$	33%	34%	35%	11%	24%	22%	22%

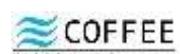


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## Group pile interactions



FE simulation



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## Comparison between measured and estimated loads

- Dead load per pile:
  - Design load = 336 kips
  - Measured at the end of construction (direct measurement) = 248 kips
  - Measured at the end of construction (assuming zero cap resistance) = 325 kips
- Live load per pile:
  - AASHTO design load (vehicular+wind+water...) = 185 kips
  - AASHTO design load (vehicular) = 81 kips
  - Simulation of live load test (assuming continuous-span) = 62 kips
  - Simulation of live load test (assuming simple-span) = 51 kips
  - Measured in live load test (direct measurement) = 23 kips
  - Measured in live load test (assuming zero cap resistance) = 53 kips



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## Purdue Method

- Unit shaft resistance ( $q_{sL}$ ) for closed-ended pipe piles

$$q_{sL} = K \sigma'_{v0} \tan \delta_c$$

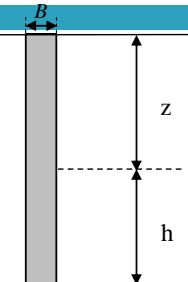
$$K = K_{\min} + (K_{\max} - K_{\min}) \exp(-\alpha \frac{h}{B})$$

$$K_{\max} = 0.01 (\frac{q_c}{P_A}) / \sqrt{\sigma'_{h0} / P_A}$$

- Unit base resistance ( $q_{b,ult}$ ) for closed-ended pipe piles

$$q_{b,ult} = (1 - 0.0058 D_R) q_{cb,avg}$$

$$D_R(\%) = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{q_c}{P_A}\right) - 0.4947 - 0.1041\phi_c - 0.841\ln\left(\frac{\sigma'_{h0}}{P_A}\right)}{0.0264 - 0.0002\phi_c - 0.0047\ln\left(\frac{\sigma'_{h0}}{P_A}\right)} \leq 100\%$$



- $h$  = distance from the pile base
- $K_{\min} = 0.2$
- $\alpha = 0.05$
- $B$  = pile diameter
- $D_R$  = relative density
- $\phi_c$  = interface friction angle
- $q_{cb,avg}$  = average cone resistance near the pile base

Han et al. 2019; Salgado et al. 2011; Salgado & Prezzi 2007

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## Purdue Method

- Unit shaft resistance ( $q_{sL}$ ) for open-ended pipe piles

$$q_{sL} = K(1 - 0.66\text{PLR})\sigma'_{v0} \tan \delta_{cs}$$

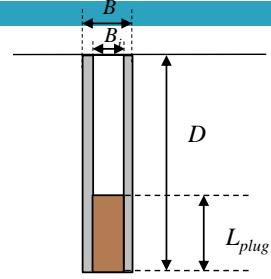
$$K = K_{min} + (K_{max} - K_{min}) \exp\left(-\frac{\alpha h}{B}\right)$$

$$K_{max} = 0.01(q_c/P_A)/\sqrt{\sigma'_{h0}/P_A}$$

$$K_{min} = 0.2, \quad \alpha = 0.05$$

- Unit base resistance ( $q_{b,ult}$ ) for open-ended pipe piles

$$q_{b,ult} = 0.21(\text{IFR})^{-1.2} q_{cb,avg} \leq 0.6 q_{cb,avg}$$



- $\delta_{cs}$  = interface friction angle
- $D$  = penetration depth
- $L_{plug}$  = soil plug length
- $B$  = outer pile diameter
- $B_i$  = inner pile diameter

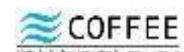
$\text{IFR} \approx \min[1, (B_i/1.5)^{0.2}]$ ,  $B_i$  in meters (Lehane et al. 2005)

Han et al. 2019; Paik & Salgado 2003

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## Bridge foundation design in gravelly sand

Elevation range (ft)	Soil description	Unit shaft resistance (ksf)	Gravel content (%)	$q_c$ (ksf)	$q_{sL}/q_c$
522-513	Clayey silt with sand	0.11	-	20	<b>0.0056</b>
513-501	Clayey silt with sand	0.58	<b>9</b>	80	<b>0.0073</b>
501-486	Sandy gravel	0.55	<b>24</b>	390	<b>0.0014</b>
486-482	Sand with gravel	0.35	<b>15</b>	156	<b>0.0022</b>
482-475	Sand with gravel	0.60	<b>10</b>	234	<b>0.0026</b>
475-464	Gravelly sand	0.95	<b>27</b>	427	<b>0.0022</b>
464-456	Gravelly sand	0.81	<b>41</b>	696	<b>0.0012</b>
456-444	Gravelly sand	0.66	<b>29</b>	801	<b>0.0008</b>
444-432	Gravelly sand	1.11	<b>27</b>	565	<b>0.0020</b>
432-422	Gravelly sand	1.83	<b>30</b>	538	<b>0.0034</b>



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## Dissemination

- ❑ Road School 2019, Purdue University
- ❑ TRB 2020, Washington, DC
- ❑ Geo-Congress 2020, Minneapolis, MN
- ❑ Indiana Bridge Design Conference, 2021
- ❑ IFCEE 2021, Dallas, TX
- ❑ ICSMGE 2021, Sydney, Australia
- ❑ TRB AKG70, Foundations of Bridges and Other Structures, Washington, DC, January 2021



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